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## THE WEEKLY COLONIST.

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SUPPLEMENT.

A Supplement sheet containing ten columns of reading matter, accompanies this number of the BRITISH COLONIST.


### News by the Cortes.

The dearth of news which we have experienced for some time back has been amply atoned for by the arrival of the Cortes. The The centre of attraction for Europe and America still appears to be the civil war in the United States. The Federal Government, noted for its rapid appointment and speedy removal of prominent generals and civilians, has removed Mr. Cameron, Secretary of War, replacing him with Col. Stanton. What the cause of removal may be is not stated in the telegrams; but it is not improbable that it may be owing to Cameron's opinions in favor of emancipation. Welles, Secretary of the Navy, it is rumored will be succeeded by Gen. Banks. What sin Welles has committed is not so clear, except his removal be to soothe England and France after his endorsal of Wilkes; or it may be partially owing to loud complaints about the inefficiency of the naval expeditions. It is also said that Blair, Postmaster General, will resign. So much for Mr. Lincoln's Cabinet, which appears to be re-organising, like Gen. McClellan's army. Among the Confederates the only change of importance of prominent men is the removal of Beauregard to Columbus, Kentucky. He has been superseded by Gen. Smith and President Davis at Manassas. The skill of Beauregard is apparently required in the West to change the order of things, which appears to be rather against the Confederates. Mr. Cameron in getting kicked out of the Cabinet got kicked up stairs to the distinguished post of Minister to Russia, whilst Clay, the noted Abolitionist, who has been filling that mission, has been made a Major-General, doubtless to strengthen Federal influence in his native State, Kentucky. The spring campaign is beginning to open; and if we believe Mr. Morrill—the author of the famous protective tariff that raised the ire of Europe and Secessiondom—within ninety days Gen. McClellan will either be a hero or a private gentleman. Such is his opinion breathing doubt—dependent on the wheel of fortune—the chances of war. There has been no movement of the Federals on the Potamac, notwithstanding; but Morrill's language clearly points to activity of some sort. A large expedition under Gen. Burnside had arrived at Pamplico and Albemarle Sounds in North Carolina, the object of which is evidently to threaten Richmond from those two points, and distract the attention of the Confederate army at Manassas, whilst the forces at Port Royal and Fort Pulaski keep the Confederates in South Carolina and Georgia in hot water. A rumored attack on Norfolk is also in circulation. If the Federal Cabinet intend going to Richmond these three movements indicate the right quarters to reach it from. Besides which they would get closely in the rear of Manassas, whilst Gen. McClellan faced the music in front. So within the next ninety days we may expect some decided results of the spring campaign in Eastern Virginia. Along the Gulf nothing has been done except a naval descent on the town of Biloxi Mississippi, in which the Federal fleet were successful, and then left.

In the Great West is where military movements are of more immediate interest. The change of Beauregard to the command at Columbus, Kentucky, is full of meaning. The Confederate commanders in the West are evidently not what President Davis would like them to be. They have brought about a crisis. The defeat of Zollicoffer and his army of 10,000 men at Somerset, Kentucky, by the Federal General, Thomas, opens Eastern Tennessee to the Federal army. The occupancy of East Tennessee is evidently a part of Lincoln's Western policy. For we find that besides Gen. Thomas at Cumberland River, on the line of Kentucky and Tennessee, that two expeditions from Cairo, under Gen. Grant, are moving in the same direction. Both of these are destined to reduce Columbus, Kentucky, a short distance down the Mississippi below Cairo. Columbus is a great point for the Confederates to hold; hence the important mission of Beauregard as its commander. But, of the three Cairo expeditions against the Confederate army of 15,000 at that point—one penetrates by Cumberland River, another by land, and the fleet by the Mississippi. The next steamer ought, consequently, to bring us news of stirring events in that quarter—and it is not at all improbable that the Federals will be successful, as they were moving in great force. To enter Tennessee, Columbus, Kentucky, has to be conquered. Such an enemy cannot be left in the rear either to attack the Federals or succor the Confederate forces in Missouri. If we look at the movement of the expedition on the coast of North Carolina, and the movement into Tennessee, the inference is that the Federals intend to surround the Manassas army, or force Davis to break up and move South. The Confederate General, Price, has made his appearance at Lexington, Missouri, so the war is still to go on there; and as winter breaks up in that bleak region, he and his compatriots will be heard from and Gen. Halleck may have his hands full. A Federal expedition, it is said, will leave Kansas under Gen. Hunter and enter Arkansas. If so, Price will be menaced front and rear.

The bearing of England and France toward the United States since the settlement of the Mason and Slidell difficulty appears peaceable. The American papers are concerned about France objecting to the stoppage of Charleston harbor with stone; and the English and French papers are nearly unanimous in urging upon their respective governments the necessity of not permitting such a thing. But we cannot believe that there is much chance to make a *casus belli* out of the matter. The neutrality will be strictly maintained. No interference of European Powers is likely to take place till they find that the Confederates possess the ability to maintain their independence. Then France and England will recognize them. If, subsequent to the recognition of their independence—should that event ever occur—the blockade prove ineffective, it is not at all likely that they may then interfere to break it up; for it is not to be supposed that the trade of Europe will be allowed to suffer through any nervousness about interfering with a blockade—that is only one in name—set up by a belligerent incapable of making one effective. Till after the recognition of the independence of the South—an event very doubtful—matters between England and France and the United States will go on smoothly. Nothing but a flagrant outrage against the rights of those Powers—one from which the States will not back down—will ever change the peaceful relations now existing.

### The Death of the Prince Consort.

The confirmation of the report of the demise of Prince Albert was received here by all classes—as we doubt not it was received throughout the length and breadth of the Old and New Worlds—with heartfelt sorrow. The flags of the Government Buildings and of the Harbormaster's Office were at half-mast during the day, official intimation of the mournful occurrence having reached the Executive by the Cortes. His Excellency Governor Douglas has most appropriately issued a call to Her Majesty's loving subjects resident here to manifest their grief at the sad event which has bereft our beloved Queen of a fond husband and a wise counsellor, and the nation of a good Prince and a sagacious statesman. Prince Albert passed from earth at precisely ten minutes to eleven o'clock on the night of the 14th December, 1861, in the 43d year of his age. The obsequies took place on the 23d of the same month. On the 16th—two days subsequent to the demise of the Prince Consort—orders for the Court to go into mourning were issued: "The ladies attending Court to wear black woollen stuffs, trimmed with crape, plain linen, black shoes and gloves, and crape fans; the gentlemen attending Court to wear black cloth, plain linen, crape hatbands, and black swords and buckles." A general mourning was also ordered, it being "expected that all persons do put themselves into decent mourning." In France and the German States the manifestations of sorrow were general and sincere.

THE COLD IN OREGON.—At the Deschutes the mercury fell to the bulb and the thermometer burst. Two more of the Jagger party have died from the effects of the frost—Mr. Clemens and Mr. Mallrey. Mr. Jeffries, who will be remembered by many Caribooites now resident here as engaged in the butchering business on Antler Creek, has lost both feet from the effects of frost.

### Licentiousness of the British Columbian.

The *British Columbian* is fast losing its influence over the public mind at home and abroad, and is gradually becoming more and more unreliable. Instead of a fair and manly utterance of facts, and an honest acknowledgment of the true points of difference between the COLONIST and itself, it has taken to distorting and witholding facts, and to uttering false and declamatory language unsupported by a reasonable foundation. What object it can expect to accomplish by such a course is beyond our conception or comprehension. With the limited experience of its conductors, it ought to know that if a newspaper takes up a position protected by truth, it is impregnable; and that if it takes up a position behind a rampart of falsehoods, it is vulnerable at every point. The *Columbian* seems not to know that a newspaper that wilfully disregards the truth where there are other newspapers to expose its lack of principle can never command public confidence and support long. It seems not to know that when a newspaper knowingly falsifies and distorts facts and utters false and declamatory language based upon garbled extracts or without a reasonable foundation, it not only destroys its legitimate influence on the public mind, but does a positive and irreparable injury to any good cause of which it may be an ostensible exponent. It is possible that the *Columbian* may think that it can gull the public into a belief that many things which it has disparagingly stated about the COLONIST are true. If it is so, an egregious mistake has been made. We have at our command the means to neutralise its slanders, expose its garbled statements, convict it of unscrupulousness, and convince the public of its growing unreliability and worthlessness. We need but refer our readers to the *Columbian* of Feb. 3, to do this—An article headed "The COLONIST and New Westminster," in that issue, opens as follows:

"The COLONIST of the 28th ult. comes to us, if possible, more replete than usual with insulting and malignant innendoes against this place. That journal has now become notorious for its disingenuousness—dishonesty, indeed—upon all questions affecting this Colony in general, and New Westminster in particular. Its reputation is so thoroughly established that no one is surprised at the *atrocious example* of this kind contained in the issue referred to. Not content with depriving us of our natural advantages and inalienable rights, he has the effrontery to tauntingly tell us that we are permitted to draw our weekly rations from Victoria;" and says if it were not for Mud Bay on the one side, and Burrard's Inlet on the other—both good harbors that never freeze up—the capital of British Columbia might as well be at the North Pole."

The above extract our British Columbian readers will remember has reference particularly to the COLONIST of the 28th ult. In order that our readers may learn whether the *Columbian* is warranted in its remarks, we add the following extract from the COLONIST of that date which contains every word about New Westminster in that issue:

"New Westminster continues to be blockaded by ice—Fraser River completely closed up, both above and below. Were it not for a trail seven miles long, on the opposite side of the river to New Westminster, to Mud Bay, inside Point Roberts; and were it not for a trail five miles long to Burrard's Inlet, the capital of British Columbia might as well be at the North Pole, as it would be as completely cut off from the entire world as from the interior. Happily Mud Bay and Burrard's Inlet are never frozen up, so our sister metropolis is permitted to draw its weekly rations from Victoria."

The balance of the article from which this is extracted makes no allusion whatever to New Westminster, lays no particular blame on anybody, but simply refers to the danger of animals starving in the upper country, the necessity of providing fodder in future, and urges upon Government the speedy construction of a trunk road to secure easier access to the mines and encourage agriculture. Thus, our readers have the basis of the slanderous and licentious diatribe of the *Columbian*, of which the above extract is a fair example.

We defy any sane man—we would even defy the *Columbian*, did not charity induce us to regard it as occasionally insane—to show anything "insulting," any "malevolent innuendoes," against British Columbia or New Westminster in our issue of the 28th ult., or at any other time, but particularly at that time. Yet the *Columbian* charges us with an "atrocious example"—some dreadful attack on New Westminster—in that issue. A writer that could see such a phrase as "atrocious example" as has been done in this instance, must be addle-pated; he certainly cannot be blessed with a very large quantum of common sense, or know the value of words or what constitutes forcible writing. But atrocity is not all our sins; for the *Columbian* says—"Not content with depriving us of our *natural advantages* and *inalienable rights*, he (COLONIST) has," etc. Well, well, this is more remarkable still! So we must have given the cold-shoulder indeed to New Westminster. We froze Fraser River up, and deprived that city of its "natural advantages!" That is the coolest thing we ever did. We were very potent, indeed, in reducing the temperature there, were we not?

The thought now strikes us that perhaps "Abe Lincoln" would employ us to freeze up the ports of Secessiondom, as an effective form of blockade. But before we do that, just to show off an "atrocious example," or "inuendo," we will make it hotter for the *Columbian*, and melt the ice in Fraser River. By that means the "inalienable right" to paddle its wares up and down Fraser River will be restored. What can the *Columbian* mean when it says that we have deprived New Westminster of its "natural advantages" and "inalienable rights," if it does not refer to the freezing up of Fraser River? We certainly have worked well to further every lawful interest of the entire Colony of British Columbia—not a mere fraction of it—for nearly four years—for nearly three years before the *Columbian* hung out its rag to the breeze, and we still do more in a week to promote the best interests of the Colony than the *Columbian* has done during its entire existence. Perhaps that journal when its common sense returns, will explain the matter more fully.

In the meantime we may advert to another of our "malevolent innendoes," another of our "atrocious examples," which, according to our cotemporary, consists in our statement that New Westminster was "permitted to draw its weekly rations from Victoria" through Burrard's Inlet and Mud Bay being open. This is a fact no one can deny. New Westminster did draw, does draw, its weekly rations—its supplies—from Victoria. If such is not the case, why is not a denial put in? Why meet it with blather? Why not prove that "our sister metropolis" did not, nor does not, draw its supplies from Victoria? British Columbians can see plainly enough what puerile stuff their "powerfully weak" organ is disseminating. Why such articles as make up the frothy attacks on the COLONIST are libels on the good sense of that Colony.

We are not alone misrepresented, our statements distorted, but so are the bulk of its population. A positive injury is being done to the cause of reform—to political emancipation. When the *Columbian* prates of "rebellion," and states that if Downing Street does not concede liberal institutions, "they will be taken by force," is that advocating constitutional government? the establishment of representative institutions? —reform? or is it not playing directly into the hands of Gov. Douglas to show Downing Street how that a people who are not temperate enough to agitate for their rights in a constitutional manner, are unfit to be entrusted with them? Downing Street and Gov. Douglas might well laugh at the babyish twaddle of our cotemporary about taking things by force; and instead of ordering out the Sappers and Miners to suppress the rebellion that is to occur—a second Whennell-Perrier war—a tempest in a teapot—a commission *de lunatico* would issue for the *Columbian*, and a crazy ward be fitted up in the is-to-be Royal Hospital of New Westminster. Yet such language, which is even without the pale of heated political controversy, injures and retards the country. It don't speak the feelings of British Columbians. They have too much sense. Hence, in their behalf, we protest against it as conveying a false idea of the real state of public feeling. The real state of matters is that British Columbia wants free institutions, and should have them, but force is utterly and totally repudiated except by the mistaken *Columbian*.

### Colorad Question.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST:—I notice in your paper of Saturday an article headed "Another Insult," purporting to emanate from a "colored man." Now I have only to say that doubtless he has a colored heart, but he has a white face. He is a part of the same clique in this town who have been thrashed, snubbed and defeated in every attempt to thrust their obnoxious and proscriptive ideas of political and conventional policy upon Englishmen, and now, as a last effort, they resort to forgery to effect their ends, which is distinguished alike for its cowardice and meanness.

Under the *nom de plume* of "colored man" they are anxious to impress our true friends that we are both "ignorant and presumptious;" that we "do not know in what our rights consist;" that we "are never satisfied," "spoiled, &c., &c." In what better way can we do this than by an article assuming to emanate from a colored man. But gentlemen, it won't do—as low as you have gone down you must go down lower. In the meantime there is a "chiel amang ya takin' notes, an' faith he'll prent em." The writer of this has observed this class of bipeds since 1858. They are "playing out" very fast, and in general will leave here with exhausted purses, and what is far worse very questionable characters.

Yours respectfully,

SIMON PURE.

RAILROAD PORTAGE.—The Columbia River Navigation Company are about to construct a railroad from the Dalles to Deschutes, Oregon, a distance of fifteen miles, for the purpose of making the portage around the rapids more expeditious and safe.

OMNIBUS.—A body of trained nurses, on Miss Florence Nightingale's plan, were to proceed at once to Halifax from Liverpool.

### Later from British Columbia

The schooner Explorer, Capt. Whitford, arrived here at 2 o'clock Thursday morning from the mouth of Fraser River, where she had lain for three weeks past, in the vain hope that the ice would give way and enable her to reach New Westminster. She landed about one-half of her freight at the mouth, and it was drawn to New Westminster on ox-teams. The remaining portion of her cargo was brought back to this port.

The Explorer brought three passengers, from one of whom we learn that the thaw has had no perceptible effect on the ice in the river. From 10 o'clock in the morning till 3 in the afternoon of each day, the weather is pleasant; but after the latter hour heavy frosts set in and continue during the night.

The passengers walked over the ice to the schooner, a distance of twelve miles, and it is their impression that there will be no break-up for two weeks, except warm rains fall.

On Monday the gunboat Grappler, with supplies for the Boundery Commission, passed the month of the Fraser on her way to Burrard's Inlet.

Six men, dragging a large sled on which was an outfit of clothing, provisions, &c., left New Westminster on the ice on Monday evening. They are bound for Cariboo, and will drag their sled over the ice and snow as far as practicable.

Reports have reached New Westminster that cattle and pack animals are dying rapidly in the Thompson River country and elsewhere.

The wharves of New Westminster are considered in a precarious situation, and fears are entertained that they will go down stream when the ice gives way.

The Explorer left the mouth of the Fraser for this port on Tuesday evening, at 5 o'clock.

ONE DAY LATER.

The gunboat Grappler arrived here from Burrard's Inlet at one o'clock yesterday afternoon, bringing later news from the river She left Burrard's Inlet on Wednesday evening at 5 o'clock, and brought Ballon's Express, with $8000 in gold dust, in charge of Mr. James H. Batterton.

Mr. Batterton is just from the towns of Yale and Hope, having walked on the ice from the former place to New Westminster in three days and a half. He brings gloomy accounts from above.

The snow is four feet deep at Yale on the level, and the river is frozen from the mouth of the Little Cañon to New Westminster, save in a few places where swift water occurs.

Mr. B. has received a letter from his partner on Thompson River, dated Feb. 4th, which stated that Kirkpatrick, who is wintering 170 head of mules on his farm, thinks, if the severe weather continues two weeks longer, that not an animal will be left alive. The snow at Kirkpatrick's is over a foot in depth, and the weather intensely cold. Many animals had died at the date of writing.

Mr. Batterton met the six Caribooites who left New Westminster with a sled on Monday. They had cast aside the sled and were packing the outfits on their backs. They declared that the ice was so rough it was impossible for them to proceed with the sled, and they had accordingly deserted it when a few miles out from Westminster.

At Hope it was reported that the small-pox had broken out among the Indians at Boston Bar and that many had died.

On the way down, Mr. Batterton noticed symptoms of a thaw, and near the mouth of Sumas River, for a short distance, the ice had melted so much as to be considered dangerous.

Hay is worth $100 a ton on Thompson River, a quantity out by Capt. Venables last summer having been sold at that figure recently to a packer.

At Yale the stock of flour has given out, and at Hope nearly so. It is worth $6 per sack at either place. Indians were engaged in packing flour from Hope to Yale.

Some excitement exists at Hope with regard to the silver lead near that town; a rich vein is reported to have been struck.

### The Colored Question.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST:—In your Saturday's issue a communication made its appearance which has caused an unsual amount of criticism and disapprobation signed a "Colored Man." Such a trashy and uncalled for complaint should be denounced in the severest terms • • • The "Colored man's" feelings must have been swayed to an intense heat of sensitiveness or a high-wrought emotion of stupidity.

I trust and hope the *intelligent* and *gentlemen* did not believe that correspondence on Saturday contained the sentiments of any intelligent colored men in Victoria. In the name of common sense is there anything to be offended at in an "Ethiopian entertainment?" I would go to one to-morrow night or any other time, and many others no doubt would do the like.

Whoever the writer may be, whether he be (if I am to use the hackneyed and often misapplied expression) "colored or white," he should be openly brought before the public and exposed for such a nonsensical effusion. Sir, I am strongly persuaded by my own sentiments that the writer of that communication in question had some narrow contracted object in view. He originated it to produce a baneful effect, a sensation, or he intended to place both parties in a conflicting and antagonistic state. • • • W. T.

Victoria, Feb'y 16th, 1862.

# The Weekly Colonist.

Tuesday, February 18, 1862.


# Arrival of the Cortes.

## Later from the States and Europe.

The steamship Cortes arrived at 3½ o'clock Sunday afternoon, in nine days from San Francisco, via Portland. She brings late and interesting news from the States and Europe:

CHICAGO, Jan. 10.

An attempt was made to blow up the Mansion House at Alexandria, Va., on Wednesday night, but was discovered in time to prevent accident. The hotel is used as a hospital, and contains 700 patients.

The Senate Committee on the Judiciary have reported against expelling Jesse D. Bright, by a vote of 6 to 1.

Col. Sam Colt, the revolver pistol man, died at Hartford, Conn., to-day.

It is now stated that Gen. Sigel resigned his position in the army in consequence of ill treatment on the part of Gen. Halleck.

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.

Fremont yesterday read an elaborate paper before the War Committee in vindication of his Missouri campaign.

The great expedition has embarked from Cairo, Generals McClernand and Paine commanding the force from Cairo, and Generals Smith and Wallace those from Paducah—the whole under General Grant.

The case of Stark of Oregon, came up in the Senate yesterday. After a warm discussion, a motion to amend the resolution so as to allow Stark to take the oath, was lost by a vote of 9 to 3.

A vote was then taken to refer the whole subject from the Senate Committee on Credentials to the Committee on Judiciary, and was carried—ayes, 28, noes, 11.

CHICAGO, Jan. 13.

Humphrey Marshall's forces, twenty-five hundred strong, are defeated yesterday by Prestonburg, Ky., by the Federals under Col. Garfielde.

The President has approved of the joint resolution explanatory of the act to increase the duties on tea, coffee and sugar.

The President will not receive Gen. Sigel's resignation. He says he is too good an officer.

The Galveston *News* states that a vessel laden with two hundred thousand stand of arms, owned by Hedrick of New Orleans, has been captured by our blockading fleet.

CHICAGO, Jan. 14.

Secretary of War Cameron has resigned Edwin M. Stanton, of Pennsylvania, Buchanan's former Attorney General, will be his successor. Mr. Cameron goes to St. Petersburg. Cassius M. Clay will return and have a position in the army.

Gen. Lane's joint resolution introduced yesterday empowers commanders, while marching through the Indian countries, to muster into service such persons as may present themselves. Nothing is said about color

The Gem of the Sea, on the 24th of December, ran ashore, 9 miles north of Georgetown, S. C. The British schooner Prince of Wales was burned for attempting to run the blockade; at Augusta, on the 31st captured the schooner Island Belle, of Nassau, laden with sugar and molasses. The Island Belle was built at Charleston, but sailed under the British flag.

Gen. McKinstry is to be tried so soon as the Auditing Committee finishes its work.

Fremont's debts already audited amount to $9,000,000.

The Senate Foreign Affairs Committee will soon report a bill recognizing Hayti.

Letters received at Washington from prominent English and French statesmen, say that if the United States would avoid foreign influence, it must make a decided movement to crush out the rebellion.

CHICAGO, January 15—A. M.

The Chicago *Tribune's* special Washington news of the 14th, says the Judiciary Committee on the bill to confiscate and emancipate the slaves of rebels stands four against; Bickman, Chairman, absent.

The bill abolishing the flanking privilege was passed.

The Army Appropriation bill was reported from the Committee on Ways and Means. It appropriates nearly $200,000,000 to pay the volunteers; $9,000,000 to pay regulars; $1,000,000 for western gunboats, and for armament and fortifications over $1,000,000 ordnance $8,000,000; army clothing $30,000,000; manufacturing arms for national army nearly $2,000,000.

Treasury notes are 5 per cent. discount, though gold is 5 per cent. premium. An Alexandria merchant was arrested on Saturday for refusing to take them at par. Gen. Montgomery released him, but ordered all persons to be arrested who refuse to take Treasury notes at par.

The N. Y. *Herald's* Washington dispatch says a grand Irish Division will be formed under Shields, with Meagher, Mulligan, Cass and Carrigan for Brigadiers.

Col. Charles Kearney, Topographical Engineer in the United States Army, died last Friday, aged 79 years.

Advices from Mexico state that that country is making immense preparations to oppose the allied fleet. Over 100,000 men will be in the field soon.

News from the Mississippi fleet state that it was going forward, and will encamp at Mayfield, Ky., to-night.

CHICAGO, January 16.

Edwin M. Stanton was yesterday confirmed Secretary of War.

Gen. McClellan was before the Committee on the conduct of the war yesterday. He answered questions touching the present condition of the army as respects transportation, subsistence, and ability to move.

Gen. Sigel still retains his position in the army.

Ice in the river has prevented St. Louis troops from getting down to join the expedition.

The forces under Generals Grant and Smith, from Cairo and Paducah, are mostly Illinois troops. They consist of 19 regiments of infantry. 4 regiments and 2 companies of cavalry, and 7 batteries, besides crews of the fleet, and 4 regiments on the way from St. Louis. Ice abounds.

A Washington dispatch denies the report that further changes in the Cabinet are contemplated.

The Commissioner of Patents has issued a circular, in which he says: Sea Island cotton cannot be made productive in Northern States. Green seed cotton alone will grow in a cold climate.

Secretary Cameron, in answer to information desired by the Senate, denies ever having made contracts. He left such work to heads of departments.

Rumors are rife as to the discovery of frauds committed by those who have been raising and equipping regiments. Double rations have been drawn, and other supplies for a force, on paper, and not regularly receipted.

The Committee on Ways and Means this morning agreed to postpone the hundred million dollars treasury note bill for the present, and to substitute a bill which will be issued to creditors; the Bank Commissioners and Secretary Chase having come to an agreement.

The House Committee on Commerce have under consideration a proposition for the establishment of a mail line of steamers from California to Japan, China and the East Indies.

CHICAGO, Jan. 17.

The Kansas contested case terminated yesterday. Lane is entitled to his seat. The vote stood 24 to 16.

News from Fort Leavenworth says that 4,000 Union Indians in the Cherokee country were attacked on the 6th inst., by superior forces of Texan Rangers. The Indians were compelled to retreat and are now in Kansas.

The expedition from Cairo into Secessiondom, under Gen. Grant, is moving rapidly towards Columbus *via* Mayfield, Ky., intending to attack by a flank movement. News of a battle may be expected to-morrow.

A special dispatch to the Chicago *Times*, dated yesterday, says the expedition was within twelve miles of Columbus.

The *Tribune's* Washington correspondence says the joint resolution of the Legislature of New York, in relation to the reciprocity treaty with Great Britain, which was referred to the House Committee on Commerce, is committed to Gen. Ward, who has prepared a report on the extension of the feature of reciprocity, which bill recommends the removal of the restriction, a provision which renders the operation of the treaty unequal. The Committee propose to make this the occasion of extending commercial relations with other nations on the continent.

The *Times'* dispatch says the Committee on the Conduct of the War has resolved to advise the immediate passage of a bill to punish with death any person who commits frauds upon the Government, whenever a soldier is badly injured from the selling of unsound provisions; also to punish with imprisonment and confiscation of property all contractors who may defraud the Government in the quality of goods sold or services rendered.

It is understood that the contract let out by Secretary Cameron for over a quarter of a million of rifles and carbines, will be ordered annulled by Congress, they cost an average of $7 each, and involve a loss of $9,000,000 to the Treasury.

News from Fort Pickens of January 2d, says that rebel batteries of Pensacola having repeatedly fired on small vessels, Pickens opened fire on the rebel steamer Time, which was landing troops on the Navy Yard on the 1st. The rebel batteries responded, and the firing continued till evening. Pickens' last shot set fire to Warrington. The conflagration continued all night. The place was still burning on the evening of the 2d, when the Rhode Island left. The fire was seen 35 miles at sea.

The brig Mountain Eagle, just arrived at New York, reports the British ship Gladestor, with the rebel ministers Mason and Slidell on board, arrived at St. George, Bermuda, January 9th and sailed for St. Thomas, January 10th, where the rebels would take passage for England. Bermuda papers say America showed good sense in yielding to England's moderate demand.

CHICAGO, Jan. 10.

It is said there are 40,000 troops at Columbus.

Mr. Cameron was yesterday confirmed as Minister to Russia, by a vote of 23 to 14.

Senator Trumbull headed the opposition to Collector Barney, of New York.

A despatch has been received from Minister Adams, announcing that the privateer Sumter, after having burned three American vessels, had taken refuge at Cadiz, Spain.

Gen. Sigel has started with an army from Rolla to scour Western Missouri.

The Chicago *Times'* daily correspondent says the gunboats Lexington and Conestoga engaged the rebel batteries at Fort Henry, up the Tennessee river, yesterday. The rebels evacuated, and the Federal troops, under Gen. Smith, occupied the place. The stars and stripes are now floating over the fort. This is the first Federal victory in Tennessee.

The Fortification bill was passed by Congress. It provides for the repairing and strengthening of fortifications on the lake frontier.

The House resolution declaring it to be the purpose of Congress to raise by taxation and customs duties one hundred and fifty millions annually, was adopted; Powell, of Kentucky, alone voting in the negative.

The New York *Herald's* Washington despatch says that recent letters from a British statesman one from the south, made some time ago, and for a long before the Trent affair the French Minister had endeavored to get the British Government to unite with France in breaking the blockade of the Southern ports of the United States. M. Thouvenel distinctly made such a proposition to Lord John Russell, who positively declined—not because England was not anxious to open certain ports, but because the British Government was unwilling to take an active part in provoking hostility of opening ports for their common benefit.

A despatch dated Louisville, 20th January, says that Gen. Thomas has telegraphed to headquarters that on Saturday Zollicoffer came up to his encampment and attacked him at Webb's Cross Roads, in the vicinity of Somerset. The troops were effectively put to flight, and retreated towards their intrenchments at Mills Springs, with the Federals in hot pursuit. Particulars of the battle not given. Zollicoffer and Battle Peyton, Jr., were both killed.

Gen. Jim Lane is expected to arrive in Chicago to-morrow night. His staff officers have been selected and approved by Gen. McClellan. They are all men of Lane's school of politics. The General will proceed at once to organize his command. Col. Brackett's cavalry, 1,300 men, leave this city to-morrow to join the expedition at Leavenworth.

CHICAGO, Jan. 20.

The *Journal's* Cairo dispatch says the expedition has returned to Paducah and Bird's Point. It seems to have been a reconnoitering expedition and not designed for a regular advance to the South. In this it was highly successful, having learned the state of the country within seven miles of Columbus, and driven the rebels from Forts Beauregard and Henry, on the Tennessee river, and ascertained the exact condition of the rebel forces.

Gen. Halleck will undoubtedly go to Cairo soon and then a forward movement towards Columbus will be made.

Vessels which arrived at Fortress Monroe on the 17th, report that Burnside's expedition had entered Pamlico Sound by Hatteras Inlet. Roanoke Island was defended by 3,000 rebel troops, and will be the first point of attack.

Gen. Buell is reported ready to advance from Green river. All the regulars have already been thrown forward.

The particulars of the victory at Somerset, so far as learned, are as follows: Gen. Thomas has been for some time in Southeastern Kentucky, with his division, composed of about eight thousand men. Of this force, Gen. Shoef's brigade was 30 miles from Gen. Thomas's headquarters. Col. Morrison's brigade was 20 miles distance, but learning from a messenger that Zollicoffer contemplated an attack, Morrison marched all the distance on yesterday night through rain and sleet, and arrived at the headquarters of Gen. Thomas about three hours before the battle commenced. His man, though tired and hungry, plunged into battle and fought like tigers. Shoef's brigade did not arrive until after the enemy had fled. Among the regiments most actively engaged in the fight, was the 9th and 10th Indiana, 9th Ohio, 24 Minnesota, 4th and 10th Kentucky, and 18th Regulars. The battle raged with great anargy for near three hours, when Zollicoffer and Peyton being killed, and our artillery pouring such volleys of death into their ranks, the enemy fled in great confusion. Before the General fell, the enemy fought desperately, as the number killed in our ranks will testify.

Gen. Thomas continued to pursue until night set in. Our forces followed the rebels, who ran before them in the wildest confusion, like a flock of frightened sheep, close up to the entrenchments on the north bank of the river. In front of these they lay all night, expecting to storm them in the morning, but with the aid of boats and barges the enemy managed to cross the river before daylight.

They left behind them all their artillery, ammunition, horses, tents and wagon-loads of quartermaster's, commissary and medical stores, which fell into our hands. Our troops took possession of their entrenchments early on Monday morning. After reaching the opposite side of the river the rebels dispersed in all directions.

So far as ascertained, the rebel loss was 250 killed and wounded. Our loss is 150 dead and wounded. Zollicoffer's force was ten thousand.

Kentucky and Cumberland Gap are now open for our troops to march into East Tennessee.

CHICAGO, January 21.

Ex President Tyler died at Richmond, Friday night, after a brief illness.

CHICAGO, January 22.

Gen. Jim Lane delivered a speech last night at the Tremont House, in this city, to an immense audience. He said that the war had been carried on thus far by conservatives, according to their notions; for the next eight months the radicals were going to manage it. This has been agreed on at Washington.

Senator Johnson of Tennessee read a dispatch from Major Hayes, stating in substance as follows: Zollicoffer is indeed dead. I have seen his body, and the victory is overwhelming. The rebels are driven from this entire section of the country, and Kentucky will soon be free from traitors.

CHICAGO, January 24.

Appearances indicate that Gen. McClellan's plan of operations is something as follows: As part of our forces in Kentucky shall advance into Tennessee, the remainder, with those at Cairo, will operate against Bowling Green, forcing the Confederates to abandon their position; their retreat will be cut off, and their condition will be precarious. Meanwhile, the Mississippi flotilla will proceed upon its mission. If the Burnside expedition shall obtain possession of the North Carolina railroads, the rebels' connection between Virginia and the cotton States will be cut off. The army at Manassas thus isolated, must leave its entrenchments either to attack Gen. McClellan or retreat.

The Navy Department has received despatches from Flag-officer McKean, dated Ship Island, January 18th, in which he reports the capture of the town of Biloxi, Mississippi, on the 1st inst., by the officers and crews of the steamers Water Witch, New London and Henry Lewis. The mule portion of the inhabitants had fled, and left the women and children behind.

A great rise has taken place in the Mississippi at Cairo The pontoon bridge at Paducah was carried down the stream.

Fort Pulaski has been abandoned by the rebels, and will be occupied by the Federal troops.

CHICAGO, January 25.

Gen. Halleck has given the St. Louis Secession sympathisers an inkling of what they may expect if they decline to pay the assessments levied on them. He seized the goods of one of the defaulters, and added 25 per cent to the original assessment, put him out of the State, and then imprisoned the attorney who sought to replevin the property.

The House has stricken out of the Senate bill the diplomatic recognition of Hayti and Liberia.

A Washington special dispatch to the New York papers says letters from Havana state that the allies are greatly dissatisfied at their prospects in Mexico, and complain that Miramon had deceived them. They expected aid from a strong party, whereas they find the population united against them, and express the conviction that the present force is inadequate to bring the Mexicans to terms. Much discontent prevails among them, and several quarrels have already occurred, in consequence of which the French are to be sent to Tampico, and the English to attack Matamoras.

Minister Corwin writes that the leading spirits of the new Administration declare that Mexico will make a successful resistance to the invaders.

Col. Reynolds, Government agent at Port Royal, reports having secured $1,000,000 worth of cotton, and that some 3000 negroes who were engaged in gathering the staple were orderly and industrious.

The report that the rebels had evacuated Manassas is untrue.

Troops are again gathering at Annapolis, supposed to be for another expedition.

NEW YORK, Jan. 27.

The Fulton Bank and other buildings, at the corner of Fulton and Pearl streets were burned to-day. Loss $500,000.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 26.

A resolution was introduced in the Maryland Legislature, requesting Senators Pearce and Kennedy to resign.

FORTRESS MONROE, Jan. 27.

The steamship City of New York struck outside the bar off Hatteras Inlet, and was lost. Cargo valued at $200,000. The steamers Pocohontas, Grapeshot and two others were also lost.

A Richmond dispatch says that it has reliable authority for making the statement that General Beauregard takes the command of the army at Columbus, Ky.

CHICAGO, Jan. 29.

Gen. McClellan has ordered all the absent officers connected with the army of the Potomac to join their regiments.

INDIANAPLOIS, Jan. 28.

Dispatches from Kentucky say that General Thomas is still pursuing the rebels, and has occupied Monticello.

CHICAGO, Jan. 30.

A special dispatch to the New York *Times* says Secretary Stanton has been shown letters from Kentucky, stating that an entire rebel regiment threw down their arms at the battle of Somerset, and declared their purpose no longer to fight against the Government. This example, followed by companies and individuals of other regiments, accounts for the complete failure and small number of killed attending so desperate an attack.

There is no doubt that Gen. Sloss will be deposed and another general, not now known, will be detailed to command his division

CHICAGO, Jan. 40.

The Senate bill authorising the President to take possession of railroads and telegraphs throughout the country, passed.

Ward, from the Committee of Commerce, made a report upon a petition praying for the abrogation of the Canada Reciprocity Treaty, which, instead of urging the abrogation of said treaty, urges a still more intimate commercial union with Canada than now exists.

CHICAGO, Jan. 31.

The British Consul at Mobile has sent a messenger by a flag of truce, demanding the liberation of the schooner Wilder, recently captured by our fleet, on the ground that she is a British vessel.

Prisoners of war by a flag of truce from Richmond, confirms the departure of Beauregard with fifteen thousand troops for Kentucky; and say that Jeff Davis will take command in person at Manassas after his inauguration on the 22d of February.

The Norfolk *Day Book* calls upon the ladies to contribute their old worn out skirts and dresses to the government, the flannel used for ammunition being as high as to subject the government to a serious tax.

The N. O. *Delta* says a steamer ran the blockade in Texas, January 14th, with one thousand bales of cotton.

The N. Y. *Times* dispatch says private letters from abroad confirm the impression that England, France and Spain meditate the early recognition of the Confederate States, on the ground of humanity.

A Richmond dispatch admits that the aggregate force of the rebels now in the field is but twenty thousand.

Charleston is to be rebuilt, the Legislature of South Carolina having passed a bill to loan one million of dollars to parties wishing to build. None but fireproof buildings will be allowed to be built.

CHICAGO, Feb. 3—A. M.

Notwithstanding the tone of some foreign journals on the stone blockade, a dispatch received at the State Department asserts that there is complete restoration of good feeling in England, France and other Continental States.

There is about six inches of snow on the Virginia side of the Potomac.

Gen. Halleck has ordered several companies of the 4th Iowa Regiment to hard labor on the Cairo fortifications, for their mutinous conduct.

Price, though formidably menaced; evinces no disposition to fall back, but from present appearances seems determined to give battle.

It is reported that the Government has come to a determination to retaliate upon the privateers now in New York and Philadelphia, placing them on the footing of prisoners of war. An order has been issued removing them to military prisons, with a view to exchange them for officers of the United States imprisoned in the South.

The Select Committee on the Defences and Fortifications of the Great Lakes and Rivers will probably report Tuesday. They will recommend the erection of such fortifications at Mackinaw as will make it the Gibraltar of the northwestern frontier; also the establishment of a Naval Depot and National Armory at or near Chicago, and that preparations will be immediately made to arm all American vessels engaged in commerce on the northern lakes. It is estimated that there are in this trade twelve hundred American vessels to three hundred British, and fifteen thousand American sailors to three thousand British.

It is represented by the Committee that a majority of the population of loyal States is west of the Alleghanies. The commerce on the lakes is greater than our whole foreign trade. To secure an uninterrupted communication with all its parts North and West, it will be necessary that a military railroad shall be immediately constructed from Bay Noquet or the mouth of Menominee river, on Lake Michigan, to Marquette, Lake Superior, and a ship canal to be built from Chicago and Illinois river.

Measures will soon be taken to break up the arrangements now existing among secessionists residing in Canada, by which dispatches are received from Europe and forwarded to their destination in the South.

The *World's* Washington dispatch says that orders have gone forward to District Attorney Smith and Marshal Murray to compel parties who sold or chartered improper vessels to the war department for Burnside's expedition, to return the amount received or go to prison. Forgery as well as fraud, was suspected in fitting out the expedition, and those who were false in regard to the draft of vessels will be compelled to refund.

LOUISVILLE, Feb. 4.

The value of property captured from the rebels at the battle of Somerset, Ky., is two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

CHICAGO, Feb. 5.

Private letters from Bishop Hughes and Thurlow Weed to Secretary Seward give very hopeful views of our relations with England and France.

Andrew J. Butler of California, was rejected as Commissary of Subsistence.

NEW YORK, Feb. 5.

The New York *Herald's* Washington dispatch says, the flag of truce which arrived the day before yesterday brought a message from Jeff. Davis to the President announcing that if the Federal Government permits rebel bridge burners to be hung, under Gen. Halleck's order, the Federal prisoners, Corcoran, Lee, Wilcox and others, held as hostages for the safety of the rebel privateersmen should be immediately hung in retaliation. A cabinet meeting considered the subject, but the result had not transpired.

CHICAGO, February 6.

Mr. Bright was expelled from the Senate to-day.

Agents have been sent to Europe to hypothecate the entire group of the Sandwich Islands to Great Britain.

## EUROPEAN.

European intelligence is to date of January 24th:

The news of the death of Prince Albert is confirmed by this arrival. The obsequies took place on the 23d of December, and were of a most impressive character. The grief of the English people at the unlooked for event was heartfelt. Queen Victoria is said to bear the blow with calmness and resignation.

Parliament is convened for the 6th of February, when, it is stated, an attempt will be made to compel the recognition by Government of the Southern Confederacy.

Mr. Massey, a member of Parliament, delivered a speech to his constituents, advocating that the European Powers should interfere between the North and South, by recognizing the Confederate States and breaking up the blockade, which attracted some attention. The London *Times*, in an editorial upon it, says: "Let France interfere if she likes; England's policy is to suffer a little longer, and let events work themselves out—it will not be long. It may, indeed, be doubtful whether our interference would not rather retard than hasten the opening of the ports. Let us, then, pursue an honest policy by standing quietly aloof."

The Europa, from Liverpool, brought neither troops, nor stores. It is reported, however, that the warlike preparations in England have not relaxed. Steamers continued taking heavy stores for Halifax.

American dispatches were considered in council on the 9th. The *Times* understands that an answer will be returned expressing gratification at the disavowal of Commodore Wilkes' act; accepting the satisfaction tendered, and giving assurances that the precedent in the Trent case will rule in the case of the schooner Eugene Smith, as to the laws of neutrals. The Government will disclaim [defer] an answer until it has had the opportunity of submitting the whole note [of Secretary Seward] to the law officers. There are propositions in the note admissable, but after the release of the prisoners they may be properly discussed.

The *Morning Post* announces that though an understanding with our Government has been arrived at, Mr. Seward will have succeeded in impressing on the English Government a notion they must have not only present indemnity, but an ample pledge for future security.

The *Times* has strong editorials on the reception due to Mason and Slidell. As habitual revilers, England sincerely hopes that Englishmen won't give them an ovation. It says that England has returned them good for evil. If they can, they will only too willingly entangle her in war with the North. England would have done the same for two negroes.

Other journals advise a similar course.

The *Times* reiterates a condemnation of the sloua blockade; and says that among the crimes which have disgraced mankind, it would be difficult to find one more serious than this. It asserts that no belligerent has a right to resort to such warfare.

The Nashville [rebel steamer] remained at Southampton. The Government maintained the strictest neutrality towards her. Nothing was permitted to be done except to render her seaworthy. She was closely watched by the U. S. steamer Tuscarora.

Russell's correspondence to the *Times* predicts the fate of the American Government sealed, if January goes without a great victory!

The pacific termination of the Trent affair caused a rise on the Paris Bourse of 1 per cent.

The *Moniteur* says that a feeling of profound regret and indignation has been aroused in England and France by the vindictive act of destroying the port of Charleston.

It was reported that Russia had sent an embarrassing ultimatum to Rome, that if the Pope did not condemn the conduct of the Polish clergy, Russia would recognize the Kingdom of Italy.

The latest telegram to the Southampton *Journal* from St Petersburgh, published an article congratulating Mr. Seward on the uprightness of his policy, and demanding that the Trent precedent policy should be made a standing point in the negotiation for a recognition by the Powers. England would give the world solemn guarantees for the future by signing a convention, which, by insuring universal respect for the rights of neutral powers, would contribute to the maintenance of peace and mark the progress of civilization.

A Cadiz telegram says that the American Consul had received orders to protest against the admission of the Sumter. Spain would protect prisoners brought in their vessels.

A new regency has been established at Pekin, under the second Empress.

The London *Times* says that mercantile letters from New York represent that the cry for promoting insurrection amongst slaves was gaining ground, and looking at threatened hostilities, whispers were at length heard, of which was one that for the sake of humanity European intervention might be found practicable.

## CALIFORNIA.

H. A. Perry, a San Francisco actor, died on the 22d ult.

In consequence of the flood the Legislature is holding its sessions temporarily in San Francisco.

H. G. Worthington was elected to the Assembly from San Francisco on the 4th inst.

On the 30th ult. the ship Flying Dragon, loaded with coal, was lost in San Francisco Bay by striking Arch Rock.

Senator Perkins was cowhided in San Francisco by a "Col." Bell, whom he had characterized as a "burning politician."

A third flood has occurred, the water of which was a foot and a half deeper than on any previous occasion.

## MEXICO.

A courier had arrived at Acapulco who reported the total defeat of the Spanish army by the Mexicans near National Bridge.

The British man-of-war Termagant has blockaded the port of Mazatlan, because of an insult received from some troops by the captain.

## Letter from Lytton.

We have been permitted to make the following extracts from a private letter received yesterday from Lytton City, B. C.:

LYTTON, Feb. 4, 1862.

FRIEND * * *, I write to inform you that the deepest snow at Shuswap was 16 or 18 inches, and even at that depth the animals had plenty of feed. Only three animals have died on the Flat, and there is no more danger to be apprehended in regard to the stock. * * * The snow is only six inches now, and we look for a thaw every day. * * * *A great deal of stock is reported dead in other parts, all the country round, both mules and horses.* * * * Your stock and Thom's are in good condition. * * *

## Supreme Court.

[BEFORE CHIEF JUSTICE CAMERON.]

*In Chancery*—Mousitt and others *vs.* Duncan and Yates.—The Attorney-General, instructed by Mr. Drake, for plaintiffs; Mr. Ring and Mr. McCreight, instructed by Mr. Dennes, for Defendant Duncan.

His Honor having ordered a *viva voce* examination—Mr. Finlayson, Mr. J. Lowe, and Mr. J. Duncan were examined by the Court, after which the Court was adjourned until Wednesday next.

TURNING THE TABLE.—Holoroft, the well known dramatist, supped one evening at Opie's. After the cloth had been removed, numerous stories were told, among which was one of a gentleman who, having put out his candle on going to bed, read in phosphorescent characters on the wall, "Confess thy sins." The gentleman fell upon his knees, and, as expected, began to confess his sins aloud—not from terror, however—for, aware that it was a trick to terrify him, devised by a certain waggish young lady in the House, and hearing a little bustle on the stairs, he guessed rightly that she and her comrades were there to enjoy his discomfiture. He confessed, as the last and greatest of his sins, that "he had kissed Miss —frequently in the dark;" and so turned the tables on his tormentors with a vengeance—a lesson she never forgot.

SWEETS.—Great men never swell. It is only the three cent individuals who are exalted at the rate of two hundred a year, and dine on potatoes and dried herring, who put on airs and flashy waistcoats, swell, puff, blow, and endeavor to give themselves a consequential appearance. No discriminating person need mistake the spurious for the genuine article. The difference between the two is as great as that between a barrel of vinegar and a bottle of the pure juice of the grape.

# The Weekly Colonist.

Tuesday, February 18, 1862.


## Copper Mining.

Copper mining promises to become ere long a leading branch of industry in both colonies. Our long lines of coast, and our navigable rivers open up a vast field in which the labor of the copper miner and the money of the capitalist may be invested. Indications of copper are found everywhere in the extensive archipelago that commences at the mouth of the Straits of San Juan de Fuca and stretches northward to the islands that skirt Russian America. From 54° 40' to the Straits of Fuca there is a coast in British territory many thousands of miles in extent, which it will take generations to fully explore and reveal the full extent of its mineral wealth. The value of this coast and its minerals are as yet unappreciated; but the time will come when it will prove a mint of wealth—be a hive of industry. Copper discoveries to be valuable at this early period in our colonial history—in the absence of railroads for the cheap and expeditious transportation of ore from the interior to a shipping port—have to be found contiguous to navigable rivers or near the sea coast. If found remote from navigation the cost of transportation in wagons or pack-trains, with wages as high as with us, would render the working of copper veins unprofitable—the veins practically worthless. The value then of an almost interminable coast, with its endless indentations, harbors, inlets and canals, and its innumerable islands may be easily recognised, and by none more quickly than by the copper miner. For it will be a long time before our copper ores will be rendered into pure copper here; consequently England will be the market in which to sell our merchantable ores. Hence the nearer copper mines are to a point accessible to ocean-going vessels the more valuable they are. Even many inferior ores—low per centage—will pay to work if there be no land transportation—if shipped at the mines.

No winter employment for miners—no winter diggings—has long been felt as a great drawback to our industry. Working four or six months in the gold fields, and spending the balance of the year in pleasure, or, what is worse, in idleness without being able to afford it, is not turning our productive power to advantage. In the absence of the discovery of winter diggings—tunnel diggings—diggings that can be worked longer than those of Cariboo, or mines similarly situated—the copper mines of the coast which are fast rising in importance, deserve serious attention and encouragement. If opened and developed, they would not only provide employment to great numbers the year round, but when the gold mining season closed, the unsuccessful or the industrious could resort to the copper mines for profitable employment. In fact they would operate like the various kinds of gold diggings do in California. There, when driven out of the mines situated high up in the Sierra Nevada by the season, the miner descends to below the winter snow line, and either finds a winter claim or gets employment on the claims of others. There they enjoy a continuous market for labor, and a continuous yield of gold. And thus, with copper mining an established branch of our industry, we would have a new market for labor, and our productive power constantly engaged in the creation of wealth. Even miners might in companies work copper in winter and send their partners to the gold fields in the spring. We need only take an instance—a late one—the discovery of a copper district—Copperopolis, in Calaveras, California—to illustrate the hive of industry which copper mining creates within a brief period. At Copperopolis, in July last, there were only two tents. At the end of the year there were twenty-five houses and others in course of erection, and town lots selling at from $500 to $600. In one of the principal claims there were from 150 to 200 men constantly employed, their wages $40 to $50 and board. In July the amount of ore taken out was estimated at 1000 tons a month; and in August 1000 men were employed in the copper district round about in prospecting and opening copper leads. A twelfth interest has sold as high as $2000. Five companies had shipped to England and the Eastern States up to October, 1629 tons, which had to be transported by land 33 miles to Stockton for shipment to San Francisco. The average of the ore of Copperopolis is 36 per cent. Besides all this there were several new towns springing up in the neighborhood dependent on the copper industry. With an illustration like this before us of what copper can do, in a brief period, we may readily infer what a change would be wrought in this Island, at Queen Charlotte's, and on the Coast of British Columbia, were our copper veins rendered productive. Once fairly started the whole coast would swarm with vessels carrying prospectors, supplying miners, or carrying the ores to market, whilst the agriculture of this Island, the Lower Fraser, or the valleys that skirt the inlets of British Columbia and those behind the coast range, where access could be had to mines on the coast, would receive a corresponding stimulus. Other branches of industry would also spring up—other mines be rendered profitable.

It is not an idle assumption, a foundationless statement, that copper exists up and down the length and breadth of our coast. We know it exists. We know it is widely diffused. We have seen specimens from the west and east coast of this Island, from the north and south end of Queen Charlotte's, from many points on the coast of British Columbia. There is no doubt of its existence, and in abundance. Yet one of the measures that ought to be attended to should be the appointment of a Provincial Geologist who would survey the coasts with a view to the developement of our mineral resources, and with instructions to publish semi-annual reports, pointing out the localities of his mineral discoveries. But what we want even more than that, is a law touching the taking up and holding of copper veins—a law that would stimulate individual enterprise to discovery, and the development of copper mines. More probably would be done by such a law through individual explorations and investment of capital and labor, than by a regiment composed of geologists—yet the latter would supply a scientific exploration that would amply repay the cost.

In a previous issue we took occasion to show that the law as it now exists in this and the sister Colony gives the ownership of copper to the Crown wherever found in Crown lands. That when copper is found in private land—whether such land has been pre-empted or purchased of the Government, or purchased of pre-emptors—it is private property—as much so as the vegetation, the rocks or the soil. Such being the state of the existing law, the fear is that pre-emption will go on till the copper veins of the entire coast will fall entirely into the hands of a few speculators. Already matters are tending in such a direction. But so long as the law allows men with capital, or men without capital, to pre-empt copper veins by pre-empting the land, just so long will it be done, and no blame can be attached to them for doing so. They do nothing more than take advantage of a privilege which the law confers upon them: and they would be scarcely admitted into the circle of prudent business men if they refused. The evil to guard against is a policy that throws the copper-bearing lands into the hands of a few and ostracises the many from any participation except as dependants, as lessees and laborers. Even the offer of Government to lease copper veins to individuals or companies by the quarter section is surely not in harmony with the pre-emption laws. A lease would conflict with the pre-emption laws. Suppose Company A. leases from Government a vien of copper with its spurs, angles, dips, &c., &c., embracing an area of 150 acres in this Colony, or 160 acres in British Columbia, and invests capital in the opening of the vien. Notwithstanding the Government lease, Mr. B. goes to the nearest magistrate in British Columbia, or the Surveyor General here, and records the 160 or 150 acres, as the case may be, the same land that was leased to Company A. The Pre-emption Proclamations having the force and effect of law permits him to do it with out any consultation with the Government. If Mr. B. be the secret agent of a wealthy company of course he will litigate his claim till he wins, till he ousts the lessees of the Crown. For it cannot be admitted for a moment that the Crown would notify its subjects that they may pre-empt where they please, and yet practically prevent them by issuing leases. Every interpretation of law or equity would consequently be against the Crown issuing leases of copper veins till the pre-emption laws be changed. The Pre-emption Acts are notices to the public given by the Crown, and the Crown cannot go secretly behind them by making leases. If it be done, the leases in case of litigation would be null and void against pre-emptors, and the Crown would be exposed to an action for indemnity to the lessees.

## Another Insult.

MR. EDITOR.—Another insult has been cast upon the colored people. We are again insulted. This time not by American rowdies, nor by the Governor, but by English officers. Yes, sir, I blush to say, by Englishmen—wearing the livery of Her Majesty. Two or three months ago, a party of Frenchmen gave a concert. They said, colored men not admitted on their bills. What was the consequence? Why, the English people staid away. A short time ago the Fire Department had a Benefit, they put on the bills—"Reserved seats for colored persons." Yet this concert was under the patronage of the Governor and the band of Her Majesty's ship Topaze was allowed to play at it. But this was not enough. What do I see advertised in the COLONIST? An advertisement which says that a benefit is coming off for the Royal Hospital, under the patronage of Captain Spencer and the officers of the Topaze, and the principal performers are sailors, who are to give an Ethiopian minstrel entertainment. Yes, Mr. Editor, Ethiopian entertainment—call it what you will—disguise it as they may—"a rose by any other name would smell as sweet."—It is nothing more nor less than a repetition of the disgusting negro performances of such low scum as Mike Michel, Max Irwin and their like. Yet this gratuitous insult is to be perpetrated by English officers! Sir, I am a British subject—not by necessity but by choice—and Sir, I blush for my fellow subjects. We are jeered, insulted,—spat upon, as it were, by those who should raise us from the dust and wipe the scalding tears of slavery from our eyes. Colored men done their duty at Trafalgar. Colored men will do it here when called for,—shoulder for shoulder with their white brethren. But sir, we will not go to the concert on Monday and see our race insulted by British officers. COLORED MAN.

☞ The weak may be joked out of anything but their weakness.

☞ In what color should a secret be kept? Inviolate (In violet).

## Assessors.

The appointment of Assessors as heretofore appears to be based entirely on the principle of bartering the office for political services rendered or promised. But the country has substantial reasons to object to such a principle. The manner in which the country was assessed last year was in numerous cases a guilty job. In others, the greatest unfairness imaginable was exhibited in the valuation of property. Nothing but personal bias, party predilections, and thorough incompetency could ever have collected together such a bundle of trash as that returned by the Assessors as a real estate tax roll. So imperfect, so manifestly worthless was the Assessment Roll that at one time the Court of Revision gave up all idea of ever being able to revise it, equalize it, and even do that legally. But by some kind of conclusions or convention between them and the Executive the roll was duly attested, and in due time the taxes demanded. Everywhere taxes—direct taxes in particular—rather rile the most phlegmatic. The taking of money from their own pockets to fill the public purse is, though not such a severe operation, very like drawing teeth. With reluctance the necessity is usually submitted to. A thoroughly cheerful tax-payer is so very rarely found that he is considered the essence of patriotism itself. The cheerful, so called, usually indulge in something between enthusiasm and a growl. But as a result of incompetent Assessors the worst feature is the loud complaints made by men in the rural districts at the way in which property has been assessed. Property side by side—we need go no further than Victoria District to find—for some unaccountable reason or other—property similar in quality, culture and location, has differed in valuation from twenty-five to over a hundred per cent. Not only that, but a valuation entirely above the market value has been imposed by the Assessors, and, in the face of appeal, passed as correct by the ex-Court of Revision, in some cases, no doubt, from the so-so reiteration of the Assessors. If we sum up the matter about the way taxes have been levied upon our farmers, it has been unequal, unjust, and is in a very great measure attributable to the incompetence of the Assessors. In the next place, the Assessors have been taken chiefly from the town. Much of the evil, then, of which our farmers complain arises from this fact. The very men who ought to know best the value of land in their district are ignored, and some tool, sympathiser of the Government, placed in the office who is instructed when he starts out that there is so much to raise, and the way in which it must be done is by placing on property a valuation to meet the Government estimate of revenue, irrespective of intrinsic value.

We protest in the name of the actual farmer against Assessors taxing property except they live in the district taxed, as it is unfair under any aspect; and the electors should hold their representatives accountable—refuse them either confidence or support if the forthcoming assessment be made without enforcement of resident Assessors. The electors, by tolerating the appointment of Assessors residing in other districts, submit to the deprivation of their rights as men and electors; and in the next place, to the chance of an unfair levy on the real estate of the district. Enough good, steady citizens—honest and capable—can be found in every district to assess realty, and to appoint others over their heads is nothing more nor less than telling them that "we have got your votes, so you can go about your business till we want your votes again. You are no account people except to vote." Such is the policy of Gov. Douglas in consenting to the appointment of men distasteful to the country; and the best way to bring about a change is to make the district representatives understand that so long as Assessors are appointed, and not elected, they are expected to see that the appointments are conferred on men residing in the taxed districts. Members who ignore such a right in their constituents deserve to lose their support,—deserve to be laid aside for men who form a more just estimate of their public duties and the rights of a constituency.

NANAIMO.—The schooner Carolena, Jones master, arrived yesterday morning with coal from Nanaimo. The bark D. M. Hall left on Wednesday with a cargo of coal for San Francisco. The temperance movement is progressing. Rev. E. Robson delivered a lecture on the subject, the other evening, when quite a number of persons came forward and signed the pledge.

THE "BROTHER JONATHAN."—The Brother Jonathan was locked in the Columbia by the ice for thirteen days. She succeeded in raising the blockade on the 28th ult. and reached San Francisco three days thereafter.

OREGON.—Thousands of cattle have died in Oregon from the severity of the weather. Beef at Portland is eight and nine cents per pound on the hoof.

MARTIAL LAW.—It was rumored when the Cortes left San Francisco that martial law was to be proclaimed the next day in that city.

DUE.—The schooners Tolo and Richardson are fully due here from San Francisco.

## LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

FRIDAY, Feb. 14.

SEVERE ACCIDENT.—Yesterday morning, at 10 o'clock, as a number of men were engaged in raising the side of Keenan's new hotel, in process of erection on Yates street, one of the props slipped and fell, striking in its fall a carpenter named Joseph Killgrove on the head and inflicting a severe scalp wound from which the blood flowed freely. The sufferer was immediately assisted by his fellow workmen to the office of Dr. Atkinson, where he received prompt medical attention and was subsequently taken to his home on Douglas street.

SHIPPED.—Four of the petty offenders lately in the chain-gang have "left the country for the country's good." Tyler and Sheppard, two of the Pruth robbers; Hardy, who attempted to steal from the Magistrate's office; and Smith, the sneak thief, were all sent off by the Diana yesterday morning to Barclay Sound, where they will ship as able seamen on the bark True Briton for England. "Good riddance to bad rubbish," say we. There are a few more fellows of the same stamp left whose presence can be very well dispensed with.

DEPTH OF SAND.—Yesterday afternoon Capt. Richards of the Hecate had a number of the boats belonging to his vessel engaged in ascertaining the depth of sand near Shoal Point, where it is proposed shortly to commence dredging. We understand that the result was very favorable, and the depth of sand to the bed rock ascertained to average six feet.

STOWAWAY.—A lad named Daniels, about 12 years of age, was discovered stowed away on board the Diana yesterday morning, and taken in charge by the Police. He is an orphan and has neither friends nor money. Mr. Pemberton discharged him from custody, and, we learn, will endeavor to obtain employment for him.

INFORMATION WANTED.—Information is wanted of David W. Cook, a native of New York city. He came to this city in 1858 and engaged in boating for a short time.

☞ The steamer Enterprise arrived at half past one o'clock this morning from Olympia. The Columbia River has partially opened.

☞ No decision was rendered yesterday in the Albert Head sawmill case.

☞ The steamer Diana left early yesterday morning for Barclay Sound.

☞ The schooner Alpha is up for Stickeen.

SATURDAY, Feb. 15.

IN A BAD FIX.—John Jackson, a patriarchial looking colored man, with beard and "mustachers" and minus several front teeth, was found on the roof of a shed at the rear of Dr. Zelner's, yesterday morning, by Sergt. Blake, and hauled to the ground by the heels. In the fall, John's head struck against the edge of a large stone, which slightly injured it—the head, not the stone—whereupon he swooned, and remained thus for several moments, but finally recovered and was escorted to the station-house. When he arrived in front of the building he suddenly turned on the officer, and after kicking him in the shins, started to run away, but was collared and locked up. Yesterday morning he pleaded in the Police Court that he was in the employ of Bishop Demers as cook, and having purchased some "butter and things" at a store, had left them early in the evening at a bootblack's on Government street, and was knocking at the door to get them when arrested. The bootblack swore that Jackson had left the "butter and things" with him, and another colored man in Court said that he had a slight acquaintance with the "old man," and considered his story "highly feasible." After thanking the gentleman for his opinion as to the "feasibility of the old man's story," by saying that if that was all he knew about the matter he'd better withdraw, Mr. Pemberton dismissed the case.

SALE OF THE STEAMER "ENTERPRISE."—The Hudson Bay folk are becoming progressive and enterprising, having yesterday actually purchased the fast and beautiful U. S. mail steamer Enterprise for the sum of $60,000. She will be registered here and receive a new name—probably that of a fur animal—will commence her trips between this port and New Westminster so soon as the Fraser opens again to navigation, and will run in future under the British flag. For the next fortnight or so, or until received by the company, we learn that she will continue her trips to the Sound as heretofore; and we also learn that her late owners will proceed at once to San Francisco and bring up a new steamer to carry the Sound mails. The Enterprise is an excellent boat for the New Westminster route, and will no doubt always be a great favorite with the public, as she will "bed" 60 passengers in staterooms and accommodate 150 tons of freight easily.

TAKING THEM DOWN.—Workmen commenced yesterday to take down a portion of the fronts of Capt. Reid's new buildings on Wharf street.

☞ Snow lies two feet deep in North and South Saanich Districts.

☞ The schooner Explorer will probably be put on the berth for Stickeen.

TO CARIBOO VIA THE COAST ROUTE.—On Monday morning the schooner Surprise, Capt. McKay, will leave here for Bella-Coola with thirteen Cariboo miners and ten tons of goods aboard. The party is headed by Mr. McLeod, who came through from Cariboo to North Bentinck Arm last fall. On arriving at the head of the Arm, Indian horses will be procured and the ten tons of goods packed through to the Forks of Quesnelle. Several of the company are interested in a claim at the Forks of Quesnelle which is only workable at low water, and they have chosen the Bella-Coola as the shortest and most practicable route to the mines at this season of the year.

THE PUGET SOUND AGRICULTURAL COMPANY'S PROPERTY.—The Sheriff of Pierce County, W. T., was arrested by the military authorities on Tuesday and thereby restrained from selling the property of the Puget Sound Company at Nisqually for taxes. The arrest was made by order of Governor Turney. He was subsequently released on parole, and the sale has not yet come off, and probably never will. Gov. Turney seems to have vim in his composition, and, right or wrong, is bound that the U. S. laws shall be respected in Washington Territory.

NEW ARRANGEMENT.—We understand that the British Columbian Steam Navigation Company have come to an arrangement with the merchants of the towns of Yale and Lytton to carry their freight at a reduced rate—$10 a ton—from New Westminster. A very considerable reduction is also to be made in the charge for carrying passengers to Yale from Westminster. The steamers Hope, Flying Dutchman, Union and Henrietta are not included in this new arrangement.

BREAKING A SQUAW'S ARM.—A brute of a fellow named John Gibson got drunk at a house across the ravine and knocked a squaw down, breaking her right arm. The squaw, who was also drunk, ran screaming about the neighborhood until the arrival of a policeman, when she was taken to the Barracks, where Dr. Helmcken set the broken limb. Gibson was subsequently arrested and locked up until to-day.

JOHN SULLIVAN.—This individual, not having raised the needful to pay his fine of £5, was brought before Mr. Pemberton yesterday to be dealt with as a vagrant; but upon a quondam friend in court promising to settle for the fine, he was again remanded for one day.

ASSAULT AND APOLOGY.—Sometime since Capt. Ogilvie, of the H. B. Co.'s schooner Mink, struck John Godfrey, who is in the employ of the same corporation, on the head, for which he was arrested yesterday, and after making an apology to the assaultee in open court, was fined 1s. and discharged.

THE "PRUTH." This bark has taken in a cargo of spars and lumber for China and will sail from Sooke at an early day next week. The Captain arrived in town yesterday and will take down a crew and ten Chinamen who have engaged passage in the Pruth to Hongkong.

MONDAY, Feb. 17.

FROZEN FEET.—A CHANCE FOR THE CHARITABLE.—Some four weeks since a Cariboo miner named Wesley walked from New Westminster to Point Roberts on the ice and during the journey had both feet badly frosted. He was subsequently brought to Victoria and taken to the Royal Hospital, where he has received the best medical attendance; but all efforts made by the physicians to save the poor man's feet have proved futile, and it is announced that he will lose both below the instep. Messrs. Neufelder and Epner on Saturday started a subscription list for the benefit of the unfortunate man, and a list for the same purpose has been left at the Adelphi Saloon. Subscriptions will also be received at the COLONIST office. The sufferer is said to be a respectable, hard working man, and the appeal now made for assistance will, we trust, not be passed unheeded either by his fellow miners or the citizens of this place.

ARRIVAL OF THE "EMILY HARRIS."—The steamer Emily Harris arrived last night from Burrard's Inlet with twelve passengers and $15,000 in dust. Mr. T. M. Loop of Ballou's Express came as messenger from Cayoosh, and reports snow at Port Douglas and other places on the route thawing rapidly. There is an average depth of 4½ feet. The ice in the lakes is becoming rotten. From Sumas down, traveling on the ice is now considered dangerous. There are no signs of a breaking-up below New Westminster. Hard frosts are experienced every night on the river. The number of animals that have perished is not so great as previously reported. Mr. Barnard, of the Express Company, had one foot frozen while making the trip from New Westminster to Yale. He has continued the trip from Sumas on a sledge drawn by Indians. About 350 of the passengers remained at Portland and the balance continued on

THE "CORTES."—This steamer left San Francisco with about 550 passengers aboard, on the 7th inst., and reached Portland on Tuesday night at 10 o'clock. The Columbia was full of floating ice, and considerable difficulty was experienced in reaching Portland. About 350 of the passengers remained at Portland and the balance continued on

to this port. She also brought two companies of U. S. volunteers, about 120 tons of freight and 200 mules, destined for Cariboo via Bellingham Bay. She was to leave Esquimalt last night for Port Townsend and Bellingham Bay. Returning, she will leave here to-morrow morning at 7 o'clock for San Francisco.

REAL ESTATE.—Mr. McCrea disposed, at private sale, on Friday, of a portion of Mr. C. B. Young's property, situated at the foot of Johnson street and adjoining the old bridge, together with the four frame buildings situated thereon, for the sum of $12,000. Major Tilton, recently Surveyor General of Washington Territory, was the purchaser. Messrs. Franklin sold the Clipper Warehouse on the same day—price not transpired; and Mr. Backus also sold at private sale twelve outside lots, situated near the residence of Mr. Woods, the banker, for $3500.

SHOT AT.—Mr. Clarke, a warrant officer of the gunboat Forward, was shot at yesterday, about 1 o'clock p. m., by an Indian, as he was walking along Esquimalt Road near Pemberton's Folly. The ball whistled close by Mr. C.'s ear, and although he made instant search in the adjoining bushes, no trace of the perpetrator could be found.

FROM BARCLAY SOUND.—The schooner Meg Merrilies arrived from Barclay Sound on Saturday. The weather at the Sound was extremely fine when she left and the ice and snow thawing rapidly. The Prince of the Seas had arrived at the mills and the True Briton had sailed for England. The Sound is clear of ice.

ROOF ON FIRE.—The roof of the Metropolitan Lodging House, Yates street, took fire on Saturday evening from a defective stovepipe. Timely discovery and application of a few buckets of water extinguished the flames without causing a general alarm.

TUESDAY, Feb. 18.

EDNEN'S MAP OF CARIBOO.—This new map of the British Columbian gold regions has been compiled from maps in the possession of the government, and from information furnished by reliable and intelligent miners, by Mr. Gustavus Egner of this city. It is said to be the most reliable guide to the diggings yet issued, and Col. Moody and the Royal Engineers, together with many parties who are conversant with the country, speak highly of its merits as conveying a correct idea of the location of Cariboo and other sections of our gold fields. Published by Hibben & Carswell, Stationer's Hall.

FALL OF THE STAFF OF LIFE.—Housekeepers will be delighted to learn that notwithstanding the high price of flour, bread has taken a great fall. The example has been set by an ill-bred horse attached to the cart of the London Bakery, who ran away yesterday morning and upsetting the cart, tilted a whole batch of hot bread out on James' Bridge.

A WHISKY SELLER.—John Wafui was caught by Serg't Blake and officer Taylor, on Sunday evening, while selling an Indian a bottle of Aged Thomas. The Police subsequently searched his house and found five cases of the same delightful beverage secreted therein, all of which was duly confiscated to the Crown. Mr. Pemberton fined John £20.

"BREACH OF TRUST."—A colored man named William Henry Harrison was arrested yesterday upon a warrant issued on complaint of a squaw, who alleges that she gave him over $90 on Sunday night last, to keep for her, and when she applied for it he told her that he had given the money to a policeman. Harrison was locked up until to-day.

THE "CORTES."—This steamer on Sunday night discharged her freight for this place and left for San Juan Island, Port Townsend, and Bellingham Bay, to land the volunteers and live stock. She is expected back this morning, and will leave at seven o'clock for San Francisco *via* Portland.

AT ESQUIMALT.—The schooner Towando, lumber-laden for Hilo, Sandwich Islands, arrived in Esquimalt harbor yesterday morning, and will sail in a day or two for her destination.

FOR BURRARD'S INLET.—The Emily Harris will leave for Burrard's Inlet at 2 o'clock to-day; and the Otter is up for the same destination, to leave to-morrow.

FOR STICKEEN RIVER.—The schooner Langley, with four passengers and a supply of provisions, was announced to leave for Choquette's Diggings last night.

THE "CORTES'" FREIGHT.—The freight by the steamship Cortes on Sunday was brought to Union Wharf yesterday by the steamer Otter and the Hudson Bay Company's scow.

☞ The schooner Surprise, with the party of thirteen Carihooites, will sail for Bentinck Arm this afternoon.

☞ The Brother Jonathan should have left San Francisco yesterday, and will be due here on the 24th.

FLOUR.—Superfine is held at $9 and Extra at $10 per barrel in this market.

## The "Cariboo Miners' Meeting."

In accordance with the call published for a meeting of "Cariboo miners to take into consideration the propriety of amending certain Mining Laws, and submitting the same to the approval of His Excellency the Governor," Moore's Hall was densely crowded at 7 o'clock last evening by an audience composed principally of Cariboolites. As no name was signed to the published call, much doubt was expressed by those present as to the person from whom it had emanated, until a few minutes after 7 o'clock, when Major Downie made his appearance on the platform and called the meeting to order by saying that he would state the object, and was proceeding to comment on "the law of '59," when

A voice—Hold on, Major! ain't you going to organise the meeting? [confusion.]

The Major would state first his object, then those present might organize. It was highly necessary to make laws to regulate tunnel mining at Cariboo.

Voice—This is no place to make laws for Cariboo [applause and confusion].

The Major—Gentlemen, if you'll only keep order, and not jump to conclusions, I'll explain. There is no Mining Board at Cariboo. In a few weeks we'll all be at our claims, and it's necessary to have laws for tunnel mining before we go there; we want tunnel diggings next winter to work in instead of coming here [applause]. We have the power to form Mining Boards. I have no intention to legislate for any particular creek, clique or claim; but we want a tunnel law applicable to the whole country. It is important to have tunnel laws clearly defined—that many of us found out in California [applause].

Loud calls for "chair!" and much disorder.

The Major did not see why the gentlemen should make a noise—'twasn't gentlemanly to do so. He had rather work for $5 a day in Cariboo than come to Victoria and spend his winter. Employment was not found for the men here, and some were going around the streets hungry every day. The people in power didn't understand what was applicable in mining districts. The object of the meeting was to take steps to—

A voice—Major, why don't you organize the meeting?

Major—Gentlemen, we'll now proceed to elect officers and make laws.

A voice near the stage—Gentlemen, all in favor of Mr. Foley acting as chairman of this meeting, please say, "Aye!"

Mingled "ayes" and "noes," amid which Mr. Foley jumped upon the platform, where his appearance was hailed with cries of "put him out!" "hustle him down!" "kick him off!" etc., and for several moments much confusion was manifested.

Mr. Timothy Sweeny, a Williams' Creek miner, was next chosen secretary, and had just taken his seat, when loud cries were heard for "Calbraith."

Mr. Sweeny, advancing to the edge of the stage, said, "Gentlemen, I resign in favor of Mr. Calbraith," and immediately left the platform.

Mr. Calbraith took the vacated seat, and stated that a call had appeared for the meeting in the Barrier Gold Digger, and the meeting was now ready to hear any remarks. If anybody had anything to say, let him wade in!

A pause in the proceedings of several minutes' duration succeeded, when the Chairman suddenly announced his intention to resign in favor of Mr. Campbell, a Lightning Creek miner.

Loud cries for "Ned Campbell" amid which, that gentleman appeared and took the chair.

A voice from the body of the hall—Here, hold on, we want a miner in the chair.

Another voice—Mr. Campbell is a miner, and a better one than you are, whoever you may be. Stick that in your ear.

Another voice—Is that a counter-jumper? Cork up. [Laughter and applause.]

After the noise had in a measure subsided, the Chairman said that considerable excitement existed in the minds of the miners present in Victoria to find that an attempt was made to interfere with the mining laws at a place so remote from the scene of operations [Applause.] The meeting was now ready for business, and the chair hoped that the crowd would keep as still as possible, as the building was overcrowded.

The Secretary said that the meeting was called by a requisition in the BRITISH COLONIST, but whether that notice came from a miner or a Bengal tiger he did not know. [Laughter.] The meeting was ready for business. The audience should be as orderly as he was sure those composing it were respectable and intelligent.

Mr. Montgomery, a Cariboolite, moved that a committee of seven be appointed to retire and draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting.

Motion seconded and carried unanimously.

The chair appointed Messrs. Madden, Sweeny, McLean, Cunningham, Montgomery, Bell and Tillman, and the Committee retired behind one of the stage curtains to deliberate.

Some ten minutes elapsed between the departure of the Committee and their return, during which interval considerable sport went on in the body of the hall among the audience, and loud and frequent calls were heard for "music" and the rag. "Songs," etc., but strange to say, nobody said anything about a speech, and when the "rag was histed," and the Committee appeared with their report, everybody seemed in a jolly good humor and ready for anything that might offer.

After order had been restored, the Committee presented the following resolutions, which were read amid frequent bursts of applause, cries of "Good," etc.:

MR CHAIRMAN:—Your Committee to whom was referred the duty of drafting a series of resolutions expressive of the views of the miners of Cariboo, beg leave to submit the following report and resolutions:

We, the miners of Cariboo residing in Victoria, do in the most emphatic manner denounce any and every attempt that may be made to legislate in relation to mining claims, and our objections may be summed up as follows: It cannot be supposed that mining interests will receive such consideration as they are entitled to anywhere so fully as in the mining regions where it is the duty and pleasure of all persons to give it the greatest protection. It is well known that a great many persons, in fact, nearly two-thirds of the Cariboo miners that are proprietors of mining claims by *location*, are now residing in different parts of the Colonies and other locations entirely remote from Victoria, consequently, great injustice would be done to such absentees if any action was had having a tendency to make laws where their interests are at stake. It is also well known that many persons not miners but residents of Victoria and other places have already invested capital in the mining claims of Cariboo, believing at best on the tempt would be made to make laws on the subject unless such action would emanate from the miners themselves when assembled at the mining localities.

Your Committee therefore consider that Cariboo, and not Victoria, is the proper place for action on this subject; and we believe that it is highly necessary for the welfare of the Colony of British Columbia that His Excellency the Governor refuse to listen to the appeals of individuals who are desirous to acquire a transient notoriety than to advance the real interest of the Coleuy. All of which is duly submitted.

1. *Resolved*, That this meeting is of opinieu that any excuse for legislate in Victoria for British Columbian miners is an unwise and impolitic proceeding, and can be predactive of no good results.

2. *Resolved*, That this meeting condemns in the most positive and emphatic manner any attempt to so legislate, and pledge ourselves, one to the other, to use every lawful means in our power to thwart any measure originated in this city having that object in view.

3. *Resolved*, That we the Cariboo miners, have an abiding faith in the integrity and capability of Thomas Elwyn, Esq., who has been appointed by His Excellency the Governor of British Columbia to the important position of Mining Surveyor and Commissioner for the Cariboo District, and that with his assistance, when we arrive in the Cariboo District, all laws and regulations necessary for the interests of the miners and the general prosperity of the Colony will then and there be duly considered.

4. *Resolved*, That the thanks of the Cariboolites be tendered to those instrumental in calling this meeting, through the medium of which we have been enabled to publicly avow our determination to legislate for ourselves at the proper time and place—to wit, in the Cariboo District—when we shall be there assembled, subject to the decision of the Gold Commissioner.

5. *Resolved*, That the Secretary transmit a copy of these resolutions to His Excellency the Governor of British Columbia.

Wm Madden, Timothy Sweeny, John C. McLean, William Cunningham, E. S. Montgomery, T. Bell, J. T. Tillman.

Mr. Nolan (of Lightning creek) moved that the report and resolutions be adopted as read.

Mr. Nolan's motion was seconded and carried without a dissentient voice.

A motion to adjourn was then put and carried, and the meeting separated after giving hearty cheers for the Committee and the officers of the meeting, and a tremendous groan for Major Downie.

## The Cariboo Meeting—Letter from Major Downie.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST:—Be so kind as to allow me a small share in your valuable columns, to say a few words in explanation of the object of the meeting held in Moore's Hall on Thursday night.

It appears by the rules and regulations issued for the working of gold mines in British Columbia that there are no laws for the working of hill or tunnel mines. I, in common with many others, take an interest in knowing what is to be the size of a hill or tunnel claim, as the 100-feet law is unjust when applied to the side of a hill. What miner, or company of miners, will undertake to test a hill side when they are only allowed 100 feet for a claim, and the prospect is that they can be cut off in the rear, before they strike the lead, by some sharp fellows who would rather that other men should prospect for them than that they should do it themselves. Take an instance: Four men take up four claims on the side of a hill of the common size—that is, 200 feet in front and 200 feet running back. They build a cabin and go to work driving a tunnel; say they strike the lead when they are in 175 feet. They have got 25 feet to work until they are on the back line. The back ground in the meantime is claimed by some knowing ones who have been keeping an eye to what kind of dirt you have been getting out. When they think you are on their front line they go into your tunnel with a tape line and compass and find that you are on their ground. The next step is to go to the Commissioner or Judge and enter an action against you for trespass. The trial comes on; you are defeated according to the laws, and there is no help for you: for the laws will be put in force, or what is the use of having them at all.

Hill or tunnel mining laws are more of a general nature than surface mining laws, and could be determined upon without interference with any other laws now in existence; and as all laws made by the Gold Commissioner and Mining Board must be approved of by His Excellency the Governor, according to the 34th section Gold Fields Act, 1859, would it not be just as well, when there were many miners in Victoria, to define the size of hill or tunnel claims, and submit the same to His Excellency the Governor for his approval? When the shortness of the mining season is considered—three or four months at most—there is not a great deal of spare time to be taken up in sending by-laws down from Cariboo to Victoria for the approval of His Excellency the Governor and run a tunnel the same season.

Yours,
W. DOWNIE.

VICTORIA, Feb. 14, 1862.

## Cariboo Mining Laws—Tunnels.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST:—Please permit me through your columns to say a few words in answer to Mr. Downie's letter of that 14th inst. This gentleman was considerably mixed up with the law-makers at Sierra County, California. There the law gives a man the right to take up 100 feet front and running back into Table Mountain for the distance of 5 miles. Mr. Downie asks to take an instance of four men taking up 200 feet square on the side of a hill of the common size in Cariboo, viz: 1000 feet high and three miles across. They put up a house and go to work, strike the lead 175 feet from their front line, leaving them only 25 feet of the claim to work profitably. Some smart fellows have been watching and cut them off by taking up the rear claim. This is truly a hard case! But how far does Mr. Downie want to travel into the hill for general observation. He might like to tunnel through for trail purposes. Take an instance. It would shorten the distance between Williams' Creek and Antler. The lead may run from one to the other. I believe that is said gentleman's opinion. Such an operation would be a decided bore, especially for the working men. If men want to tunnel let them adopt the general system of California, that is so easy, the right of way through from claims to rear ones is recognized, so that the front claims be not otherwise interfered with.

Men seldom take the chance of running a long tunnel into a hill without first prospecting from the top. If any particular case in tunnel mining should require judicature in Cariboo, would it not be better to call a meeting where the claim could be actually viewed, than to draw up a code of laws in Victoria which might not suit in actual practice. And why cannot the Governor be asked to grant Mr. Elwyn, now in town, the right to sanction tunnel laws made by miners in Cariboo, thus obviating the necessity of awaiting an answer from Victoria, should an instance occur as cited by Mr. Downie. The men would not then be placed in a worse position than others, who after prospecting for months often find diggings for others to profit by. Instance: Williams and Antler Creeks. The discoverers of Antler took up some of the poorest claims on the creek, not being able to prospect on account of the severity of the weather. They were afterwards crowded out by those who hunted them down, after they had crossed and recrossed snow clad mountains, breasted the freezing winds, chilling their life blood, and endured the pangs of knawing hunger.

AN OLD CALIFORNIAN.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
February 17, 1862.

The subjoined despatch announcing to this Government the melancholy intelligence of the death of His Royal Highness the Prince Consort, is hereby published for general information.

Unofficial intimation has yet been received by this Government of the ceremonial of general mourning to be observed by the Nation at large; but His Excellency the Governor does not delay to call upon the Queen's loving subjects to testify their regret and sympathy upon this distressing occasion by putting themselves into decent mourning.

By command of His Excellency,
WILLIAM A. G. YOUNG,

DOWNING STREET.
December 16, 1862.

SIR:—It is with the deepest regret that I have to communicate to you the melancholy intelligence of the death of His Royal Highness the Prince Consort.

His Royal Highness expired at Windsor Castle, on the night of the 14th instant, at 10 minutes before 11 o'clock, to the inexpressible grief of Her Majesty, the Royal Family and the Nation.

I have the honor, etc.,
NEWCASTLE.

To Governor Douglas, C. B.
etc., etc., etc.

## BIRTH.

At Nanaimo, February 11, the wife of Robert Dunsmuir, of a daughter.

## DIED.

In Victoria, at Bickley Farm, February 14th, Charlotta, wife of John Dutnall, aged 48 years.

## PASSENGERS.

Per steamer CORTES, From San Francisco—Geo W Morley, Peter McQuade, John Rowe, T Noren, H Nathan, M Monroe, Miss Chesby, Mr Sumner, J N Davis, J H Harris, E B Hubbel, W H Whitaker, Blanch, Gallagher, Herdy, G Plummer, J C Keenan, lady, child and servant, Annie C Rhody, Mrs Branby and son, J F Tyrer, Rev Mr Jameson, lady and 2 children, A Qualen, W H Oliver, Schofield, Wolf, Annie Lowe, Davis, Hunstoon, L Bettman, Dr Olds, Geu Adair, R L Harris, Windham and son, Tolburn, Saukey Wm Foster, Julius, Johnson, D Esperon, Jas Johns, John Bray, Murphy, Edward Elston, J McLean, Lloyd, Wm Olds, Hopkirk, L Pullan, E Reed, Hickox, P Goss, John Rustan, Geo Fregen, John Toni, J Reuhatt, M Nicholas, Paul Koblnis, M Burns, D J Anderson, Thos Tritton, S Hopkins, P S Faris, E Pembury, A Pembury, A Clark, J C Conner, Thos McGlashan, John James, E Cradduck, B Diblin, G Demmin.

Per stmr ENTERPRISE, from Port Townsend—Mr Jerrold, Wait, McDonald, Berry, Brown, Brooks, Tucker, Drumb, Wright, Blumberg, Capt Lean, Geo Stein.

Per barkentine CONSTITUTION, from Honolulu—J P Robinson wife and 2 children, Mr and Mrs Reegan, Rev Mr Glover, Thos Wheeler, J C Colour, B McKee, John Sheppard, L Wolff, S Johnson and 3 children.

Per stmr ENTERPRISE, from Port Townsend—Messrs. Tilton, Sirrow, Mollett, Pabst, McCarty, Parks, Dr Trimble.

## IMPORTS.

Per stmr CORTES, From San Francisco—4 cs cigars, 6 cs yellow metal, 4 pgs nails, 2 do felt, 5 bales oakum, 2 cs cotton prints, 4 pgs drug, 1 do confectionery, 1 cs glassware, 1 do seeds, 1 do candy, 1 do dotes, 1 do spices, 3 do cigars, 13 do liquors, 1 do nipples, 1 bbls sugar, 10 firkins butter, 4 cs cigars, 1 pg opium, 1 do cigars, 10 do tin plates, 1 do tin, 25 sacks potatoes, 10 bbls flour 3 cs hardware, 10 pgs billard tables, 1 do stationery, 2 do ink, 1 do boots, 1 do dry goods, 1 do clothing, 1 do varnish, 1 do oil, 2 do tobacco, 3 do hats 6 dry goods, 4 do clothing, 1 do socks, 3 do fancy goods, 1 do hats, 1 do dry goods, 1 do hops, 1 do dry goods, 1 do zink, 1 do hardware, 1 do cigars, 1 do beads, 1 do shoes, 1 do shawls, 6 do tobacco, 1 yo elcers, 15 do tobacco, 1 do pipes, 1 do dry goods, 10 do boots, 2 do clothing, 1 do hats, 3 do tobacco, 1 do oil, 3 do dry goods, 3½ de shipstores, 3 do rope, 3 do dry goods, 1 do shawls, 6 do tobacco, 1 bbs coffee; B Derham, 36 kgs sugar; Puget Mill Co, 200 kgs sugar, 98 bgs do, 6 bbls poe, 6 bbls tallow, Stewart, Meidrum & Co, 122 kgs sugar, 200 bbls molasses, 4 mules, 9 water casks. Value not specified.

Per stmr ENTERPRISE, from Port Townsend—Reynolds, 48 sacks oats; Adair, 2 coops chickens; Edgar & Aime, 200 qr sacks flour. Value, $445.

PER stmr ENTERPRISE, from Port Townsend to Nanaimo—2 coops chickens; Herrls & Co, 19 bd cattle, 164 sheep; Reynolds, 7 hogs. Value $1674.


## W. H. OLIVER,

Importer and Wholesale Dealer in

Fine English French and American

**Liquors,**

CHAMPAGNES, CALIFORNIA WINES

CLARETS AND BRANDIES,

In the large and spacious Warehouse

Johnson street, opposite Wharf street

VICTORIA, V. I.

A large Stock of Bonded Wines and Brandies always on hand.

To Dealers purchasing in large quantities, a liberal discount will be made for cash.

Agency of 1st Premium California Wines, in pack ages and cases;
Agency of Old Sachem and Hostetter's Bitters;
Choice Claret Wines, in casks and cases, received direct from Bordeaux, via San Francisco, in bond;
Choice Old French Brandies, received direct from the Agents, in bond, via San Francisco;
Choice Old Bourbon Whiskies;
" " Port and Sherry Wines, in casks a cases;
High Proof Jamaica Rum;
" " Scotch Whisky;
" " Brandy and Whiskies;
" " Alcohol and Spirits, in bbls. and tins;
Champagne Wines, complete stock of all the favorite brands now in use;
And a general assortment of Case Liquors, Cordials Syrups, etc.

Traders and Dealers visiting Victoria will find it to their interest to call and examine my stock before purchasing. All orders from British Columbia and towns on the Sound will meet with prompt attention.

W. H. OLIVER.

ja19 6mw


## MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

PORT OF VICTORIA, V. I.

ARRIVED.

Feb 11—Stmr Enterprise, Curry, Port Townsend
Bark Constitution, Keiler, Honolulu
Stmr Emily Harris, Grant, New Westminster
Sloop W B Naylor, Waller, San Juan
Schr Langley, ——, N W Coast B C
Feb 16—Schr Explorer, Whittord, New Westminster
Feb 14—Stmr Enterprise, Curry, Port Townsend
Schr Caroline, Jones, Nanaimo
Feb 15—Schr Harriet, Coffin, Port Townsend
Feb 16—Stmr Cortes, Huntington, San Francisco via Portland
Feb 17—Schr Wild Pigeon, Atkinson, Port Townsend
Sloop Leonede, Allen, Port Townsend
Stmr Emily Harris, Court, New Westminster
Schr Nanaimo Packet, Allen, San Juan

CLEARED.

Stmr Enterprise, Curry, Port Townsend
Feb 15—Schr W B Navler, Waller, Alberni
Schr Nanaimo Packet, Allen, San Juan
Schr Amelia, Thornton, San Juan
Feb 15—Sloop Wild Duck, Preston, Port Townsend
Feb 14—Stmr Enterprise, Curry, Port Townsend
Canoe ——, Dubuy, New Westminster
Boat Mary, Entwistle, Salt Spring Island
Feb 15—Schr Independence, Siedman, San Juan
Schr Harriet, Coffin, Port Townsend
Feb 17—Stmr Cortes, Huntington, port Townsend
Schr Langley, Barrowman, Sitka


## HEALTH FOR A SHILLING!

## Holloway's Pills.

**Headaches, Bile, Loss of Appetite, and Lowness of Spirits.**

These Pills require no interruption of business or pleasure; they act mildly on the bowels, strengthen the stomach, and promote a healthy action of the liver, whereby they purify the blood, cleanse the skin, brace the nerves, and invigorate the whole system. They effect a truly wonderful change in debilitated constitutions, as they create a healthy appetite, correct indigestion, remove bile, giddiness, headaches, and palpitation of the heart.

**Weakness and Debility.**

In cases of debility, languor, and nervousness generated by excess of any kind, whether mental or physical, the effect of these Pills is in the highest degree bracing, renovating and restorative. They drive from the system the morbid cause of disease; re-establish the digestion, regulate all the secretions, brace the nervous system, raise the patient's spirits, and bring back the frame to its pristine health and vigor. They increase the appetite, while they assist perfect digestion to all ordinary food, and release the invalid from restraint in diet.

**A Word to Females.**

There are two periods, especially in Woman's life, which require her to be passing, judgment and attention. Irregularity is apt at those critical times to take place, and to lay the foundation of future disease. These Pills, safe in action, and effective in result, should be taken at certain periods, and the issue will be marvellous both to the young and the middle aged. They purify, correct, and regulate. Dropsy and the most of similar serious disorders, by expelling all impurities from the system, therefore none should ever be without them.

**Coughs, Colds, and Asthmas.**

No medicine will cure colds so quickly as these Pills, when of long duration or settled on the chest, or even though it has assumed the form of hectic cough, they may be relied on as a certain and never failing cure, particularly if the Ointment be well rubbed into the chest and throat at the same time. By this catch the eye of any asthmatical person so bad as even not able to lie down in bed, let him well use these two preparations for only a week, and the result will be marvellous.

**Blood to the Head—Diseases of the Heart.**

More persons die suddenly from diseases of the heart than have ever learned to suppose. Some complaints, the bowels should always be kept well open, as also where there is a tendency of blood to the head. These celebrated Pills purify the blood in an extraordinary manner, and should be taken in copious doses when such symptoms occur, taking care not to overload the stomach; by this means all danger is quickly averted.

**Children's Complaints.**

It is not generally known, but such is the fact, that children require medicine oftener than their parents. Three-fourths of the children die before they attain the age of eight years. Let mothers, then, be wise, and give to their children small doses of these invaluable Pills once or twice every week. In such quantity as may set gently upon the system twice in the twenty-four hours. For infants, a Pill may be crushed and given as a powder in a little water. The gross humors that are constantly floating about in the blood of children, the forerunners of so many complaints, will thus be expelled, and the lives of thousands saved and preserved to their parents.

*Holloway's Pills are the best remedy known in the world for the following diseases:*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ague | Dropsy | Inflammation | Sore Throats |
| Asthma | Dysentery | Jaundice | Stone and Gravel |
| Bilious Complaints | Erysipelas | Liver Complaints | Secondary Symptoms |
| Blotches on the Skin | Female Irregularities | Lumbago | Tic-Douloureux |
| Bowel Complaints | Fevers of all kinds | Piles | Tumours |
| Colics | Fits | Rheumatism | Ulcers |
| Constipation of Bowels | Gout | Retention of Urine | Venereal Affections |
| Consumption | Head-ache | Scrofula, or King's Evil | Worms, of all kinds, from whatever cause |
| Debility | Indigestion | | |

☞ There is a considerable saving by taking the larger sizes.

N B.—Directions for the guidance of patients in every disorder are affixed to each Box. 1y14

☞ CURTIS & MOORE and LANGLEY BROS., Sole Agents for Vancouver Island. de4

COUGHS, ASTHMA, AND INCIPIENT Consumption are effectually cured by

## Keating's Cough Lozenges.

For half a century this well-known remedy for Pulmonary Disorders has successfully stood the test of public approval, and their sale has been extended to every clime and country of the civilized world. They may be found alike on the gold-fields of Australia, the bark huts of the settler, the important place in the East or West Indies, and the palace of Pekin. During this long period they have withstood the pretensions of numerous inferior rivals, and are now the acknowledged antidote for Coughs, Colds, Asthma, etc

IMPORTANT TESTIMONIAL.

MELBOURNE, Port Phillip.

DEAR SIR,—I duly received per Maitland the case of Lozenges you sent me, and have much pleasure in saying that they have met with a ready sale; therefore, send me now the value of ten pounds, that is, double the last sent, packed in two cases with Tins, etc., as before.

The Lozenges require only to be tried, and I am sure the sale will be immense. I am also an advocate for Proprietary Medicines in the general way, but assure you that the Lozenge have done so much good in almost every case in which we have recommended them, that I believe them better adapted to this climate than anything else we have seen need.

Believe me, dear sir, yours faithfully,
DANL. R. LOVE.

Mr. Thomas Keating.

Prepared and sold in Boxes, Tins, and Bottles of various sizes, by THOMAS KEATING, Chemist etc., 79 St. Paul's Churchyard, London. Sold Retail by all Druggists and Patent Medicine Vendors in the world.

To prevent spurious imitations, please to observe that the words "KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES" are engraved on the Government Stamp of each Box, without which none are genuine

☞ Sold at Victoria, Vancouver Island, by Mr W. M. Searby, Pharmaceutical Chemist. ja10 12t wy

## A. T. CLARK & CO.,

East India, Shipping, and General Forwarding Agents,

27 LEADENHALL STREET, LONDON, E. C.

And Dock Chambers, Southampton.

PASSENGERS' BAGGAGE, PARCELS, and Merchandize received and forwarded to all parts of the world.

Parties coming from India will save themselves time and trouble if they advise A. T. C & Co. by the previous Mail, in which case a clerk will meet them on board, and see to the landing of Baggage, and clearing it at the Custom House. ja14 1yw.

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VICTORIA COLONIST, PRINTED and Published by ARTHUR DECOSMOS, Government street, near the Post Office, Victoria, V. I.

Tuesday morning, February 18, 1862.

# WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST---Supplement.

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### A Lost Chord.

Seated one day at the organ,
I was weary and ill at ease,
And my fingers wandered idly
Over the noisy keys.

I do not know what I was playing,
Or what I was dreaming then;
But I struck one chord of music,
Like the sound of a great Amen.

It flooded the crimson twilight,
Like the close of an Angel's Psalm,
And it lay on my fevered spirit
With a touch of infinite calm.

It quieted pain and sorrow,
Like love overcoming strife;
It seemed the harmonious echo
From our discordant life.

It linked all perplexed meanings
Into one perfect peace,
And trembled away into silence
As if it were loth to cease.

I have sought, but I seek it vainly,
That one lost chord divine,
That came from the soul of the organ,
And entered into mine.

It may be that Death's bright angel
Will speak in that chord again,
It may be that only in heaven
I shall hear that grand Amen!

—*Adelaide Anne Proctor.*

### I Didn't Know What He Meant.

He gave me a knife, one day at school,
Four-bladed, the handle of pearl;
And great black words on the wrapper said,
"For the darlingest little girl."
I was glad! O yes, yet the crimson blood
To my young cheek came and went,
And my heart thumped wondrously pit-a-pat,
But I didn't know what it meant.

One night he said I must jump on a sled,
For the snow was falling fast;
I was half afraid, but he coaxed and coaxed,
And he got me on at last.
Laughing and chatting in merry glee,
To my home his course he bent,
And my sisters looked at each other and smiled,
But I didn't know what it meant.

The years passed on, and they touched his eye
With a shadow of deeper blue;
They gave to his brow a manlier grace—
To his cheek a swarthier hue.
We stood by the dreamily dippling brook,
When the day was almost spent,
His whispers were soft as the lullaby,
And—now I know what he meant!

### Love.

Like Dian's kiss, unask'd, unsought,
Love gives itself, but is not bought;
Nor twice, nor sound betrays
Its deep, impassioned gaze.
It comes, the beautiful, the free,
The crown of all humanity—
In silence and alone
To seek the selected one!

### The Laugh of a Child.

"I love it—I love it—the laugh of a child,
Now rippling and gentle, now merry and wild:
Ringing out in the air with its innocent gush,
Like the thrill of a bird of the twilight's soft hush
It floats on the breeze like the tones of a bell,
Or the music that dwells in the heart of a shell,
Oh! the laugh of a child, so wild and so free,
Is the sweetest sound in the world for me!

### The Right of the Crown to the Minerals in the Soil of British Columbia and Vancouver Island.

Discovery after discovery is fast bringing to light the fact that the Colonies of British Columbia and Vancouver Island, with their dependencies, are not only rich in gold, but that they are also rich in silver, copper, iron, lead, tin, coal, etc. As these great natural sources of wealth are discovered, there is a growing desire among capitalists and miners to engage in turning them to a profitable account. The Governments of these Colonies may feel, in fact they express, an equal amount of anxiety to second their enterprises; but it has been and is a universal complaint that, with the exception of the well-known privilege accorded to "free miners" to work gold mines in British Columbia, the Government have a most awkward way of showing their sympathy with the capital and labor which offer themselves for investment in mines of silver and the baser metals. Delays and impolitic restrictions imposed or proposed to be imposed by Government on mining enterprises other than gold, prove a severe drawback—a positive loss to the country, and an equally positive check to private enterprise—to what every intelligent economist must regard in the light of the infant manufacturing industry of the country, which, if properly encouraged, would in a few years become of gigantic proportions, employing an immense capital with thousands of miners, and stimulating both commerce and agriculture. Notwithstanding these governmental annoyances, the prospect of a handsome remuneration for capital and labor, if invested in silver, copper, or coal mines, increases the public interest taken in such mines, and the questions very naturally arise, To what mines has the Crown an exclusive right? How can capitalists and miners become the owners of mines or acquire the right to work them?

In answer to these questions we may state that the Crown owns all the mines in both Colonies, whether of the precious metals—gold and silver—or of copper and other base metals, except where the Crown has conveyed away its right to private parties, either through sale, pre-emption, or lease. And that capitalists and miners can become owners of the precious and base metals in the soil only by a grant or lease from the Crown or its assigns, or they may acquire the ownership of the base metals by pre-emption or purchase.

The public generally are under the false impression that the Crown claims the exclusive ownership to the base as well as the precious metals, even when the land has been granted to its subjects, and that it may levy a royalty upon them. But this is a mistake as we shall show in the following quotation from Blackstone on the right of the Crown to mines:

> A twelfth branch of the royal revenue, the *right to the mines*, has its original in the King's prerogative of coinage, in order to supply him with materials, and therefore those mines which are properly royal and to which the King is entitled when found *are only* those of *silver and gold*. By the old coinage law, if gold or silver be *found in mines of base metal*, according to the opinion of some, the *whole* was a royal mine, and belonged to the King; though others held that it only did so, if the quantity of gold or silver was of greater value than the quantity of base metal. But *now* by the statutes 1 W. and M. st. 1. c 30, and 5 W. and M. c 6, this difference is made immaterial; it being enacted that *no mines of copper, tin, iron, or lead* shall be looked upon *as royal mines*, notwithstanding gold or silver may be extracted from them *in any quantities*; but that the King, or persons claiming royal mines under his authority, may have the ore (other than tin-ore in the counties of Devon and Cornwall) paying for the same a price stated in the Act. This was an extremely reasonable law; for *now private owners* are not discouraged from working mines, through a fear that they may be claimed as royal ones. Neither does the King depart from his just rights of his revenue, since he may have all the precious metal contained in the ore, paying no more for it than the value of the the base metal which it is supposed to be; to which base metal the *landowner* is by reason and law entitled.

Blackstone, in this extract, sets forth three points, viz: 1st, that royal mines are only gold and silver; 2d, that the Crown has no right to copper or other base metals if not in Crown lands; 3d, that the Crown can, by paying a fixed price, claim all the gold or silver in mines of base metals. The first two points are now the law of England; but the third is not, for by 3 and 4 W. IV, c. 27, s. 30, the right of the Crown to take gold or silver found in copper, &c. is virtually repealed, inasmuch as this statute prevents any remedy at law—no mixed actioo can be brought. Such was the law, according to the ruling of the Courts, in British Columbia and Vancouver Island at the time of their organizatioo.

In tracing down the right of the Crown to the mines in the soil of British Columbia since its organization into a Colony, we find that it has especially reserved to itself the precious minerals—gold and silver—with the right to work them itself or allow its licensees, the "free miners," to do so. But no reservation of the base metals whatever is made. In the "Gold Fields Act, 1859," no allusion is made to any metal but gold. "Auriferous rock" is mentioned and wherever quartz is mentioned it only has reference to gold quartz, not to copper-bearing quartz, or silver-bearing quartz. In the Pre-emption Consolidation Act, the "precious minerals" are reserved, not the base metals. Hence, so far as British Columbia is concerned, the Crown's right to the minerals in the soil is, 1st, the right to gold and silver wherever found, whether on Crown land or private land; 2d, the right to the baser metals only when found on Crowni ands.

Since the organization of this Colony, in 1849, Vancouver Island was granted to the H. B. Company. Under the giant all "royal mines," as well as mines of copper, lead and coal, were conveyed to the Company. That grant *virtually* expired in May, 1859; but up to the last published accounts, the Island had not been re-granted to the Crown, conformably to the tenor of the original grant. Hence, *legally*, the right to "mines royal" and to the base metals is still vested in the Company, except such mines as may be found in lands sold by the Company to private parties. Such mines, whether of the precious or base metals, to such private lands acquired from the Company, are consequently private property, and cannot be lawfully claimed by the Crown. The grant to the H. B. Company having virtually ceased in 1859, since then an arrangement has been made between the Crown and the Company, by which the Crown may dispose of the lands in the Colony. By this arrangemeot the rights of the Company to the Crown lands and all minerals in them are *practically* held by the Crown. Under this right a Pre-emptioo Proclamation has been issued, in which the right to the precious minerals is reserved from pre-emption; but no reservation is made of the base metals. Hence, the ownership of minerals in this Colony is as follows: 1. The Crown has a right to all the precious metals in the Colony in public and private lands not granted away by the Company. 2. To all the base metals in unsold or uo-pre-empted lands. 3. If the Company granted lands without reservatioo of the minerals, the grantees own the minerals. 4. If the Crown has allowed parties to pre-empt land under the Pre-emption Proclamatioo, the base metals belong to such pre-emptors.

To become the owner of copper, lead, iron, tin or coal mines in either Colony, all that is required is to purchase the land; or if the land be Crown land, any British subject, or alien who may take the oath of allegiance, may pre-empt the land in which these minerals are found, and by complying with the conditions of the "Pre-emption Consolidation Act" of British Columbia, or the "Pre-emption Act" of Vancouver Island, as the case may be, he can become absolute owner of the land and the base minerals which it contains.

### Fire Department.

We have been a very fortunate town indeed. We have almost miraculously escaped the devastating agency of fire. Scarcely a town on the Pacific coast with light, inflammable buildings such as ours are chiefly composed of, has escaped a conflagration, small or great, but ourselves. Still our citizens, comprising all olasses, with a wise forethought, have at great personal expense, labor and inconvenience, organized a very efficient Fire Department. Though parades and false alarms have been the chief occasions on which to display their strength, still the Department has been kept in a high state of effioiency, ready and able to do their utmost in quelling fires whenever we shall be so unfortunate as to be visited by the devouring element. The means of defence against fire are gradually accumulating; but we at the same time observe that the means to spread fires are also increasing in as great or in a greater ratio than the means of defence. We refer to the ereotion of light, inflammable two or three-story wooden buildings within the central and commercial portion of the town. It might be felt as an individual haidship, in a community where capital may not be so plenty that every one can conveniently construct stores and dwellings of brick or stone, if a law were passed to restrain individuals from ereoting wooden buildings more than one story in height in the central and oommercial quarter of the town. An inexperienced person might think it an equally great hardship when told that it was unlawful to keep more than a certain quantity of gunpowder on his premises. But experience has shown that both oases—the stopping gunpowder from being stored in town and the stopping of the oonstruction of inflammable buildings of more thao one story—have been exseedingly wise provisions. The danger to life and loss of property from the explosion of the one is oot greater than the other; for when two or three-story wooden buildings ceiled with cotton catch fire they usually burn op before aid to preserve them can be exerted. The fire also spreads to neighboring buildings with far greater rapidity than it would were the buildings where the fire commenced more solidly constructed. Besides, there is far greater difficulty in conquering the flames usually in a two-story dwelling thao in a one-story hoose.

It is needless for os to explain further the great advantage at which firemen would work in suppressing fire in low buildings to what they would in large and high ones. The advantage is as apparent as the danger from high inflammable boildings is great. Hence, if necessity forces us to construct wooden buildings at all in the oommercial quarter they should be those from which the least possible danger of extensive conflagration can arise. The least of two evils is the best, and consequently wheo it is practically impossible to stop the construction of wooden buildings of all heights in the central part of the town, the least that should be done would be to stop the ereotion of inflammable boildiogs of more than one story. In this, we are advocating no innovation—statotes and civio ordinances have everywhere been passed with such fao object. Moreover alarm is generally felt at the increase of lofty woodeo buildings, as the danger of an extensive fire becomes more imminent. It would theo be really a very advisable measure at the next session of the legislatore to pass a law to prevent the erection of wooden buildings of more than one story within certain limits. Such a provisioo would ably second the objects of the Fire Department, and possibly be the means of avoiding a great destruction of valuable property.

### The Ship True Briton.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST:—In fairness to Capt. Narracott, of the True Briton, and to the officers of the American Custom House at Port Townsend, we ask your permission to state that the whole story of the True Briton's departure from Puget Sound, as now before the public is a tissue of misstatements and falsehood.

The True Briton sailed leisurely from Seabeck to Port Townsend, where Capt. Narracott shipped a crew and obtained a clearance for his vessel in the usual manner. No attempt was made to "run the ship past Port Townsend;" on the contrary, the True Briton dropped her anchor there and remained 16 hours. The sailors who were on board at Port Townsend were discharged at Barclay Sound, and came to Victoria several days ago in our steam-tug.

E. STAMP & Co.

Victoria, 12th Feb., 1862.

☞Bartley, the eminent actor, was called upon by the midnight minstrels on the morning of Christmas day. "We are the parish waits, ao' please you," said the spokesman, "we played before your door last night." "You did, indeed," was the reply in mournful tones, and he looked upon his visitors with the air of a man who knew their errand. "We have come to hope, sir," went in the clarionet, "for your kind contribotion." "Oh, dear," said Bartley, with affected surprise, "I thought you had come to apologise!"

☞There are many people who falter and tremble as long as there is any mixture of doubt in their minds as to what they can, or what they ought to do, but who, the moment that doubt ceases, have power and will to dare anything.

### Sabbath Physiology.

The Almighty rested one-seventh of the time of creation, commanding man to observe an equal repose. The neglect of this injunction will always sooner or later bring mental, moral, and physical death.

Rest is an invariable law of animal life. The busy heart beats, beats ever, from infanoy it is in a state of repose.

William Pitt died of apoplexy at the early age of forty-seven. When the destinies of nations hung in large measures on his doings, he felt compelled to give an unremitting attention to affairs of state. Sabbath brought no rest to him, and soon the unwilling brain gave signs of exhaustion. But his presence in Parliament was conceived to be indispensable for explanation and defence of the public policy. Under such oirenmstances, it was his custom to eat heartily and substantial food, most highly seasoned, just before going to his place in order to afford the body that strength, and to excite the mind to that activity deemed necessary to the momentous occasion. But under the high tension, both brain and body perished prematurely.

Not long ago, one of the most active business men of England found his affairs so extended that he deliberately determined to devote his Sabbaths to his accounts. He had a mind of a wide grasp. His views were so comprehensive, so far-seeing, that wealth came upon him like a flood. He purchased a country seat at the cost of four hundred thousand dollars, determining that he would now have rest and quiet. But it was too late. As he stepped on his threshhold, after a survey of his late purchase, he became appplectic. Although life was not destroyed, he only lives to be the wreck of a man.

It used to be said that a brick-kiln "must be kept burning over Sabbath;" it is now known to be a fallacy. There can be no "must" against a divine command. Even now, it is a received opinion, that iron-blast furnaces will bring rain if not kept in continual operation. Eighteen years ago, an Englishman determined to keep the Sabbath holy as to them, with the result, as his books justified, that he made more iron in six days than he had before in seven; that he had made more iron in a given time, in proportion to the hands and size of his furnaces, than any establishment in England which was kept in operation during the Sabbath.

In New York, the mind of a man who made half a million a year went out in the night of madness and an early grave, in only two years, from the very strain upon it by a variety of enterprises, every one of which succeeded.

"It will take about five years to clear them off," said an observant master of an Ohio canal boat, alluding to the wearing-out influences on the boatmen, who worked on Sabbaths as well as on other days. As to the boatmen and firemen of the steamers on the Western rivers which never lay by on Sabbaths, seven years is the average of life.

The observance, therefore, of the seventh portion of our time, for the purposes of rest, is demonstrably a physiological necessity, a law of our nature.—*Hall's Journal of Health.*

AUTOGRAPH LETTER OF NAPOLEON TO TALMA.—A nephew of Prince Demidoff has just opened a "Napoleonic" museum in the island of Elba. It consists exclusively of furniture, clothes and jewelry which belonged to Napoleon I. There is also a curious autograph letter by General Bonaparte to Talma, the actor, at a time when the former was vegetating in poverty in Paris. It runs thus: "I have fought like a lion for the Republic, my good friend Talma, and as a reward she lets me starve; that wretch Aubry leaves me on the pavement when he might make something of me. I feel myself more than a match for such Generals as Santerre and Rossignoll, and they won't find a corner in Vendee, or elsewhere, to employ me. You indeed are fortunate. Two hours on the boards puts you face to face with the public that dispenses fame We, soldiers, must purchase glory at a higher price, on a larger stage, which we are not always permitted to ascend. Do not, then, regret your position; remain on your stage. Who knows whether I shall ever appear on mine again? I saw Monvel (another actor) yesterday. He is a true friend. Barras makes large promises. Will he keep them? That I much doubt. I am reduced to my last farthing. Have you a few francs at my service? I won't refuse them, and promise repayment out of the first kingdom I may conquer. My friend, how happy were the heroes of Ariosto! They did not depend on a Minister of War. Adieu.

Yours, BONAPARTE."

DEAD MEN'S THOUGHTS.—Some of the most eminent physiologists in Germany and France have argued the very curious question as to whether a man feels after his head is out off. In support of this unpleasant theory facts are adduced, with grave vouchers for their authenticity. Among others is the most unfortunate Mary, Queen of Scots, whose lips continued to move in prayer for at least a quarter of an hour, after the executioner had performed his duty. Windt states that after having put his mouth to the ear of a departed criminal's head, and calling him by name, the eyes turned to the side from whence the voice came; and this is attested by Fontenelle, Magore, Guilitine, Feuche, and Aldini. On the word "murder" being called in the ear of a man executed for that crime at Coblentz, the half closed eyes opened with an expression of reproach on those who stood around.

BAD COMPANY.—Bad company is like a nail driven into a post, which after the first or second blow, may be drawn out without any difficulty; but being once driven up to the head, the pincers cannot take hold to draw it out—it can only be done by the destruction of the wood.

☞A paragraph in an Edinburgh paper announced that the celebrated vocalist had met with a serious accident by the upsetting of his carriage. The same authority shortly after announced that he had so far recovered as to be able to appear before the public in *three parts*.

### From the Sandwich Islands.

The barkentine Constitution arrived from Honolulu, S. I., at 9 o'clock Tuesday morning, with 16 passengers and a cargo of Island produce and fruit. The Constitution was 20 days in making the passage, and had fine weather throughout. She will discharge at City Wharf.

We are under obligations to Mr. John T. Little for a file of the Honolulu *Advertiser*, from which we take a few unimportant items:

An election for Representatives to the National Legislature took place on the 6th ult. The Catholic party polled 1200 votes, and were successful in returning all but one of their candidates. The members generally are anti-Administration.

Mrs. Jane Young Lahilahi Kall, aunt of the Queen, died June 12th.

We learn that during the storm on Sunday the 4th inst., a thatch house at Makawao, owned, and occupied by two natives, was struck by lightning and consumed. Two women were in the house at the time, but escaped uninjored. The storm was very severe all over the island of Maui, and a large quantity of rain fell.

### White Slavery.

A correspondent of the London *Times* describing one of the great mantua-making establishments in that city, communicates the following facts:

> Work commenced every morning at 7 o'clock, and continued till 11 at night—a period of sixteen hours—the only intervals allowed being about ten minutes for each meal—the total amount of time allowed for eating their food, I was going to say, but surely "bolting" is a more appropriate phrase—being forty minutes a day; thus leaving fifteen hours and twenty minutes as the period devoted to work. And this, be it remembered, is not merely during the busy season, but for all the year round, from January to December. The only day of leisure which the girls of this establishment have is Sunday. They are not allowed to cross the threshold even to purchase a pair of shoes or a new gown for themselves, and must employ their friends outside to do this for them.
>
> Nor is the accommodation in doors such as in any way to reconcile them to this close confinement. The work room, in which ten or twelve of them are employed, is only about twelve feet square, and is entirely devoid of arrangements for ventilation, which is the more to be deplored, as during the evening they have to suffer the heat and foul air of three flaming gas burners right over their heads, every door and window being shut by which a breath of pure air could possibly enter. The bed-rooms are equally uncomfortable, no fewer than six persons being huddled into one, and four into another.
>
> It is impossible to contemplate the condition of this class of work women, (as disclosed by the facts quoted,) without keenly sympathizing with it, and wishing that something might be done to mitigate its evils and misery.

### The Parisian Dog Doctor.

A few weeks ago, the Countess K——, a Russian lady of great wealth, alarmed at the illness of a favorite King Charles spaniel, sent a servant for the well known Dr. B——, whose professional practice is wholly canine.

At the appointed hour, entered the M. D., a tall, thin, bald gentleman of most dignified politeness of manner, and dressed in the professional black, his boots of the most spotless varnished leather, showing that he had come in his equipage.

'And where is your interesting invalid, madame?'

The dog lay on a cushion at the feet of the Countess, and the Doctor prepared to take a diognosis of the disease. First unglo\ving his right hand, he caressed the patient till his confidence was won, then examined his tongue, felt his pulse, tried the pressure of his loins, and, with ear lowered to the dog's head observed his breathings.

'Madame, the case is serious!'

'Oh, Doctor!' try, at least, what medicine can do for him. I so love that little creature!'

'But, Madam, the complaint is more a moral than a physical one, I fear. Will Madam allow me to ask if she has another favorite at present?'

'No other dog in the world! No pet whatever, except the parrot in the cage yonder—a feathered favorite with which my spaniel has nothing to do.'

'And does the dog see you feed the parrot?'

'Of course, but it is only nuts and fruits that I give to the bird, and the dog, of course, eats meat.'

'Ah, bot Madam, dogs have hearts, and wish to be exclosively loved; and yoors, Madam, allow me, to assure you, is *dying of jealousy!*'

'Impossible!'

'Nothing more certain, Madam! I see it by the way he steals an unwilling look at the bird, then sighs and drops his head. You observe, by the other symptoms, that the liver, the seat of jealousy, is attacked. From the torpid action of the remaining organs he is now getting feverish and jaundiced. Unless there is an immediate change in the action, he will die in a week.'

'But how—pray tell me how to produce the change?'

'First, and that speedily, remove the bird! Then, Madam, have no absences for which the dog cannot account. Other corroborative treatment, of course, such as light nourishment, fresh air and exercise; but, above all, expulsion of the parrot, beyond sight, smell or hearing!'

The Doctor rose and drew on his gloves, received with gracious courtesy the gold coin which paid him for his visit, and bowed himself out.

Following his advice most implicitly, the Countess saved her dog!

## LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 12.

HOW FARMERS DO IN RUSSIA.—A friend has laid before us a German work entitled "Directions for Raising Stock," in which we find a method, originally adopted by a Russian nobleman of Mohilew, named Sabloski, for preventing horses and cattle from starving during the long winters of that country. This nobleman was in the habit, in the fall of each year, of sending his people to gather moss from trees and low swampy ground. The moss thus obtained was placed in small heaps in the open air, and the heaps well saturated with salt water or brine, and left until required for use, when it was cut off while in a frozen state and fed to the horses and cattle. The consequence of this diet was that his animals throve just as well as those of his neighbors who fed with hay or grain. The only expense incurred, beyond the cost of gathering, is for twenty pounds of salt to a ton of the moss. It is cheaper than any other kind of feed that can be adopted in that country: and if we are ever again to be visited with another winter such as we are just passing through, the information may prove invaluable to our farmers.

THE HUDSON BAY COMPANY AND THE "ENTERPRIZE."—It is a fact that the Hudson Bay Company have been in treaty for some weeks past for the purchase of the fast and elegant steamer Enterprise, now engaged in the U. S. mail service between this port and the Sound. The Company, we hear, have made a final offer to her owners, a positive answer to which is expected on Friday. The owners are disposed to sell, but ask the matter of a few thousands more than the H. B. Co. are willing to pay. The Enterprise is one of the fastest river boats on the coast, and, if purchased, will be placed on the route to New Westminster. She will carry passengers and light freight, and, if necessary, can make a trip from here to the river and back easily in a long summer day. She will probably be strengthened somewhat before going on the route; but the old Otter will carry most of the freight. For the convenience and safety of the traveling public alone, we hope that the company or some other parties will buy the Enterprise or conclude to build a more suitable boat for the trade than any at present running in these waters.

THE "TRUE BRITON'S" DESTINATION.—There are two stories told as to the destination of the ship True Briton, an account of whose escapade from Port Townsend we published yesterday, many asserting that she will call at Alberni and take on board a new crew, and others that she will not stop short of Honolulu, S. I. We believe the latter assumption to be the correct one; but how about the eight men and the "village blacksmith," who the Port Townsend *Northwest* says were "shanghaed" under pretence of working the vessel to Victoria? Will they submit to be carried off from their homes without a desperate struggle for liberty? If the facts are as stated in the *Northwest*, the "shanghaed" will prove themselves great fools by consenting to remain aboard without at least attempting a mutiny. Had the vessel put in at Alberni, it is said that another writ from the Sheriff of V. I. awaited her. Hence her departure for the Islands.

A. N. AND E. W.'s.—In consequence of the meeting of this flourishing society the other evening, and the non-receipt of a supply from below, soap has advanced materially in price, and saponaceous articles generally have taken a *sud*-den rise. To provide against a scarcity, the President of the Association yesterday ordered fifty cases of Harper Twelvetrees' soap powder for the use of members at the next general meeting, which order *cleaned* the market of that desirable article. Nearly all our second citizens having joined, those of our "first citizens" who possess the necessary qualification now talk of applying for membership.

THE PUGET SOUND AGRICULTURAL CO.'s PROPERTY.—Yesterday was the day set for the sale of this company's Steilacoom (W. T.) property by the Sheriff of that county for non-payment of local taxes. The Sheriff professes to act under an Act just passed by the Territorial Legislature, which Act the U. S. District Judge has declared unconstitutional. The Governor of the Territory on Monday issued a proclamation cautioning the Sheriff from selling the property and sent down two U. S. Marshals, fully clothed with power to call out the military if necessary to prevent the sale.

FROM THE NORTHWEST COAST.—The schooner Langley arrived yesterday from Fort Simpson with furs. She spoke the Kingfisher with the Stickeen gold-hunters aboard, on last Saturday week, about two hundred miles above here. The Indians on the coast are reported as threatening. The Langley will probably leave for Stickeen River in a fortnight.

LECTURE.—Dr. Evans' lecture on "Chivalry as connected with European Civilization," was well attended. The reverend lecturer treated the subject in a masterly manner, and the manifestations of approbation and satisfaction on the part of the audience were frequent. No lecture of the course has given more general satisfaction.

☞ Bricklayers re-commenced work on the new buildings yesterday.

NANAIMO.—The schooner Alpha arrived from Nanaimo yesterday afternoon with 60 tons of coal for the Victoria Coal & Lumber Company. The bark D. M. Hall arrived at Nanaimo on the 5th and is discharging ballast. The new shaft is down fifteen fathoms.

GOLD.—We hear flying rumors of gold discoveries recently made on a creek emptying into the ocean about thirty miles south of Cape Flattery. The story goes that the natives there have struck good diggings; but we don't believe it.

DEPUTATION.—A deputation of two from New Westminster waited on His Excellency yesterday, in regard to the mail subsidy, and were placed in possession of information as to the action of the Government in the premises.

☞ The Constitution has been chartered to bring a cargo of horses, mules and cattle to this port, from the Sandwich Islands, for J. J. Dowsett and J. Meek.

FOR STICKEEN RIVER.—The sloop Hamly is up for the Stickeen River gold diggings, and will sail on Saturday with passengers.

☞ The steamer Enterprise discharged freight yesterday morning and left at 10 o'clock on her return trip to Olympia.

☞ One of the Topaze sailors was sent to the chain-gang yesterday for a term of 28 days for a breach of discipline aboard ship.

THURSDAY, Feb. 13.

FAVORABLE.—The beautiful, spring-like weather with which we have been favored for the past few days has melted the snow and ice and thawed the ground to a considerable extent, and cannot have failed in exerting a most favorable influence on the congested waters of the Fraser and Columbia Rivers. If continued for a few days longer, we should not be surprised to hear of the re-opening of both streams to steamboat navigation. The thermometer, at noon of yesterday and the day before, stood at 52 degrees. The danger to the stock surviving in the country has not entirely passed by, but is in a great measure over, and if no more severe weather is experienced, rather more than two-thirds of the cattle and sheep on the Island will be saved. Business is lively, and, on the whole, matters have begun to assume a most favorable aspect, and one which we very much rejoice to see.

ASSAULT ON A SQUAW.—Late on Tuesday night officer Shapard, while going his rounds, heard screams and on proceeding to one of the wharves, found a man named Sullivan engaged in maltreating a Hydah squaw of Amazonian appearance and proportions. The officer took the man and woman to the station house, and yesterday the man was brought before Mr. Pemberton as a vagrant. He said that he had plenty of money due him by road-makers which he would soon obtain, and endeavored to prove that he was not a vagrant. The squaw—the most disgusting looking object in the shape of a human being we have ever seen—proved the assault, whereupon the magistrate fined the accused £5, and gave him two days in which to pay the same; in case of default, he will then be proceeded against as a vagrant.

ASSAULTING A PUBLICAN.—P. Tyley was fined £5 yesterday in the Police Court for blacking an eye for M. Manetta, the keeper of the Miners' Saloon, on Johnson street. It appears that Tyley, who was tight, entered Manetta's, and after taking a drink of liquor, declined to pay for it. Soon after he asked for another drink, which Manetta, like a prudent publican, refused to give him without the "bit" in advance. Tyley then became abusive, next uproarious, and finally, having worked himself into a great rage, struck Manetta in the eye, producing a wicked looking contusion. For this outrageous act he was shortly afterwards arrested and made to *potlatch* a modicum of cash towards the support of the Colonial Government.

GO IN!—THE MORE THE MERRIER!—Some talk is heard of converting the store on Yates street formerly occupied by Mr. Backus as an auction room into a squaw dance-house! Certain parties are endeavoring to lease the building for the purpose; but we hardly think the agent for the property will acquiesce. For our part we see no more impropriety in starting an institution of the kind on Yates street than on Fort or Humboldt streets. The effect is the same, no matter where the location; and the more houses of the description started, the greater nuisance they will become, and the sooner we shall experience the intense satisfaction of seeing them all closed. Therefore, start it, by all means.

THE "SHANGHAEING," &c.—From a card published elsewhere it will be seen that Messrs. Stamp & Co. contradict *in toto* the statement of the Port Townsend *Northwest* with regard to the circumstances attending the departure of the True Briton. The "shanghasing" story is also spoiled, it appearing that the nine men shipped at Port Townsend returned to their homes several days since.

A CHANCE TO REFORM.—Three or four of the petty thieves in the chain-gang have been pardoned out on condition that they will leave the country. They will be sent to Barclay Sound this morning and will ship as able seaman on the True Briton for England.

BITTEN BY A DOG.—An Indian employed about a house on Kane street was yesterday badly bitten by a ferocious dog, the property of a neighbor. The Indian had entered the neighbor's yard for the purpose of procuring a necessary article, when the brute sprang upon and seized him by the throat, dragged him to the ground, and mangled the poor fellow's throat and face terribly. His cries were soon heard by a humane outlsen, who hastened to the rescue and compelled the animal to release his victim. The Indian's injuries, although severe, are not considered dangerous.

ASHES.—People who are in the habit of casting ashes into the streets must look out now, as we learn that a new Police order has been made to prevent such proceedings in the future. Yesterday the Sergeant of Police notified several persons to remove the heaps of ashes at present in front of their doors within a week; if not, they will be fined heavily.

FOR STICKEEN RIVER.—In addition to the sloop Hamly, we learn that a small schooner is fitting out at James' Bay for Stickeen River. There is a growing feeling in favor of these new gold diggings in this community, and there is every indication of a considerable emigration in that direction so soon as the weather becomes settled.

FALL FROM A HORSE.—Yesterday Mr. James Carswell, while riding on horseback near his residence, in the eastern suburbs, was thrown to the ground by the animal suddenly shying, but escaped with slight injury, and will be out in a day or so.

AFTER COPPER.—A party of men started yesterday in the sloop W. B. Naylor, for Barclay Sound, to make the necessary arrangements for working the copper vein recently struck there.

☞ Several Indian huts at Esquimalt were destroyed yesterday by the Police, and the occupants ordered to reside on the reservation.

☞ The schooner Mink, with coal for the Hudson Bay Company, arrived yesterday afternoon.

### Genteel Crime in England.

At a meeting of the Social Science Association, a paper on "Joint Stock Frauds" was read, from which we clip a few paragraphs, concerning defaulters:"

WALTER WATTS.

The result of the extraordinary success of the joint stock principle, within the last twenty years, has been that numbers of persons of humble origin, of indifferent moral principles, have been brought into contact with enormous sums of money, the appropriation of which has been extremely easy, and these persons have appropriated enormous sums, careless about detection, and ready to pay the penalty of their liberties or their lives, if detection should follow. The first case to which I think it right to call attention, is the case of Walter Watts. He was a clerk in the Globe Insurance Company in London, at a salary of £200 per annum. Between the months of August, 1844, and February, 1850, he abstracted £70,000. When he commenced the system of defalcations, he was only 25 years of age; but the life he led during his six years of public plunder was remarkable. In 1844, the name of Walter Watts suddenly became associated with fashionable and Corinthian life in London. He became a patron of art and pleasure in its most extravagant form; he kept an establishment at the West End and a country house in Brighton; he had one of the best cellars in London, stocked with the rarest vintages; he had some of the best horses in London; he was a devoted attendant on the theatres. In 1847, he became lessee of the Marylebone Theater, and during that year the celebrated Mrs. Warner appeared there as the star of the unsuccessful legitimate drama.

During the season of 1848 and 1849, Mrs. Mowatt and Mr. Davenport, two American artists, played at Watts' theatre. Watts spared no expense. Mrs. Mowatt's dressing-room beneath the stage was fitted up like a bower of the Genii in "The Arabian Nights." In fact, the brilliancy of the expenditure of the Marylebone Theatre was the subject of conversation all over London during the year 1849. The only persons who knew nothing about it appeared to be the Directors of the Globe Office, in which Watts, spending £10,000 a year, was a clerk at £200 a year. In 1849 he opened the Olympic Theatre, but the extravagant and splendid management of this Temple of Thespis only lasted a few months before his frauds were detected. The defalcations during the year 1849 alone amounted to £18,000. In the receipt department of the office there was no effective check against fraud, although, owing to the integrity of the officials, no fraud took place, and in the accountant's office, in which Watts was employed, the lax practice prevailed of making the bankers' pass-book the foundation of the entries in the books of the company, instead of the documents referring to the payments ordered, so that if the persons having the custody of the pass-book chose to falsify it, the false entries were transferred to the general books of the office, and thus made to cover abstractions effected through the bankers. Watts, being tried and convicted, committed suicide.

JOHN SADLEIR.

The next case of a similar character is that of John Sadleir. John Sadlair, in 1836, was admitted as an Irish attorney, and practiced with success in the country and in Dublin. In 1847, he was elected a member of Parliament. In 1853 he was appointed Lord of the Treasury under Lord Aberdeen. He looked forward to be Chief Secretary for Ireland, or Chancellor of the Exchequer, and had a fair chance of either of these great offices. All this splendid position he owed to the fact of being enabled to use the money of the Tipperary Joint Stock Bank. He himself was a man of simple and inexpensive habits, and the only relaxation he took was hunting, which he did not carry on in an extravagant manner. His resignation of his place at the Treasury, and retirement from the Government, were followed by his resignation of the post as chairman of the London and County Bank. His credit was then gone in London. His forgery of the title deeds of the Irish Encumbered Estates Court was detected; and, on the 16th February, 1856, John Sadleir committed suicide at the age of 42. From the Tipperary Bank John Sadleir abstracted over £200,000. As chairman of the Royal Swedish Railway Company, he issued false shares to the amount of £150,000, the whole proceeds of which he appropriated. The most singular part of John Sadlair's frauds is this—that over a quarter of a million of money he received is unaccounted for; that is, there is no tangible method of explaining how the money was spent, or who received it from him.

THE BRITISH BANK DIRECTORS.

The Royal British Bank was started in the year 1850, with a capital of £100,000, one half of which was paid up. The board managed its affairs in the way every dishonest board in every joint-stock bank can do if they please. Mr. Cameron the manager, became indebted to the amount of £30,000. Mr. McGregor, $8000, Mr. Mullins, £7000, Mr. Gwyn, (another of the old directors and original projectors) £13,000, of which no account was rendered to the shareholders, and of which it is extremely problematical whether the creditors have recovered one penny. And one of the auditors, who, it may be presumed was a little too prying, found it more convenient to accept an advance of £2000 than to enter into disagreeable questions of vouchers and cheques. Mr. Humphrey Brown, M. P., on the day he opened his account paid in £181 14s., and he drew money until he was debtor to the company to the amount of £70,000. The bank stopped on the 3d of September, 1856; during its existence of six and a half years, it exhausted the whole of the £158,000, subscribed by the shareholders, and left them besides half a million in debt. The British Bank directors were tried for a conspiracy to defraud, and they were convicted. Still the heaviest sentence was twelve months, and there are thousands of persons who would submit to twelve months imprisonment for £50,000.

WILLIAM JAMES ROBSON

Has immortalized himself in the annals of crime, by his frauds on the Crystal Palace Company. In 1853, he obtained a salary there at £1 per week, and in June, 1854, he was appointed chief clerk in the transfer department, at a salary of only £150 per annum. But Robson was a well educated, refined, and gentleman-like man, 34 years of age, with literary tastes; the author of several plays, and having a large circle of acquaintances in London. The simple plan by which he obtained £27,000 by false pretences was this—Robson directed a Mr. Clement, a stock broker, to sell 100 shares in the company, and the broker accordingly sold them—fifty to a Mr. Joseph Lowe, and fifty to another person. For these shares the broker received £295, which he paid over, less commission, to Robson. The document by which these shares were transferred purported to convey the shares from Johnson to the purchasers. The signature to the deed, where the name of the transfer should be, was that of Henry Johnson—nominally, of course, written by that gentleman, who, however, had no existence, the whole thing being a forgery on the part of Robson. Like Watts, Robson lived in a most extravagant style. He was sentenced to be transported for 20 years.

☞ The schooner Gen. Morgan, bound to Hongkong from Port Townsend, on the 18th Nov., put in at Honolulu, S. I., when 55 days out, short of provisions and water.

SELF-RELIANCE.—Rely upon your own exertions for a living, and you will not go barefoot while waiting for dead men's shoes. Rely upon your own eyes for sight, and you will not be misled by the short-sightedness of others. Rely upon your own brain for ideas, and you will never perpetuate plagiarisms. Rely on your own talents for fame, and you will not need to resort to humbug.

☞ "What are you about?" inquired a lunatic of a cook, who was industriously stripping the feathers from a fowl.

"Dressing a chicken," answered the cook.

"I should call that undressing," said the crazy fellow in reply. The cook looked reflective.

HORSES *vs.* MEN.—"Why, Dr.," said a lady, "you talk as though a horse was better than a man!"

"He is," said the doctor, "he never deceives a lady—he bridles his tongue, he follows no fashions, and he hates hoops."

☞ "Taking them one with another," said the Rev. Sidney Smith, "I believe my congregation to be the most exemplary observers of the religious ordinances; for the poor keep all the fasts, and the rich all the feasts."

☞ "In painting and poetry the standard works of genius, being permanent and accumulating, for awhile provoke emulation, but in the end, overlay all future efforts and transmit only their defects to those that come after."

"SAM, I've lost my watch overboard—it lies in twenty feet water. Is there any way to get it?"

"Yes, of course there is."

"How, Sam?"

"Why, divers' ways, to be sure."

☞ A recent English critic ventures the remark, that, "the great intellectual merit of the Americans is acuteness; their great failing, conceit."

Every taste may be corrupted by habit. Perhaps a man may get accustomad to an offensive atmosphere, that he will stop his nose in passing a garden of jessamines and violets.

☞ If you have a trouble, keep it to yourself. A jolly fellow can raise a dollar at any time. A dismal individual on the contrary, could not negotiate a loan of ninepence if his life depended on it.

☞ Many beautiful women, when walking in the streets, seem very angry if they are gazed at, and sadly disappointed if they are not.

☞ After an event is irretrievable, nothing is more absurd than the discussion of what might have been done.


CAUTION AGAINST COUNTERFEITS.

The high repute and extensive sale of Messrs. Perry's Medicines having induced many unprincipled individuals to foist upon the public illicit and spurious compositions of their own preparation, Messrs. Perry beg to inform persons purchasing their medicines, that none are genuine unless the underneath signature of R. & L. PERRY & Co. is affixed on the outside of each wrapper of the CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM and DETERSIVE ESSENCE, and their name, address, and also that of the medicine, is blown on the bottle, to imitate which is felony; and, in addition, all Messrs. Perry's medicines sold in Australia, India, China, and all other parts of the world will be protected by a patent stamp affixed to each bottle, bearing their name and address in full; and every packet and bottle must be accompanied by a copy of the pamphlet, entitled "Extracts from the Silent Friend," which is included in the price charged for the medicine.

R. & L. Perry & Co

SURGEONS.

*Messrs. R. & L. PERRY & Co. are only to be consulted at their residence, No. 19, Berners street, Oxford street, London, as they never, under any circumstances travel either at home or abroad, and they hereby caution the public against any person using their names.*

THE GREATEST MEDICAL DISCOVERY OF THE AGE.



PERRY'S CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM.—Established nearly a century, and known throughout the world as THE GREATEST REGENERATOR; a never-failing remedy for the loss of manly power, restores the impaired powers of life when exhausted by the follies of youth, maturity, or old age. It is a certain cure in all cases of extreme nervous debility produced by early imprudence, and various other causes, spermatorrhœa, exhaustion, incapacity for society, study, or business, indigestion, shortness of breath, dimness of sight, giddiness, cholic, bowel and bilious fever complaints, constipation and relaxation, dyscntery, asthma, jaundice, fever, lumbago, gout, rheumatism, coughs, colds, sore, weak, and ulcerated throats, nervousness, hysteria, pains in the limbs, interrupted circulation, tic-doloureux, restlessness at night, all chronic diseases, and all female complaints. This invaluable medicine is the most wonderful triumph of art over nature, and is adapted for both sexes. It has the effect of restoring and increasing the natural vigor of those who are suffering from prostration and languor produced by sojourning in the colonies or in hot climates. Thousands have been restored to health and vigour by its use, as sworn to on oath before the Right Hon. Lord Mayor of London, and the following Aldermen—Sir Peter Laurie, Kt., Sir James Duke, Bart., M.P., Sir John Musgrove, Bart., Sir George Carroll, Kt., Sir Robert Walter Carden, Kt., David William Wire, Esq., William Cubitt, Esq., M. P., Sir Henry Muggeridge, Kt., and others.

Price 11s. per bottle, or four quantities in one for 33s., which saves 11s.; and in 22 bottles, effecting a saving of £11s.

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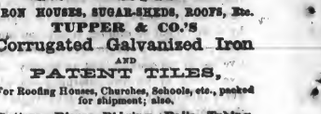
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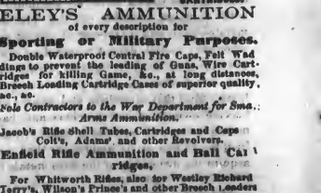
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